



**Board of Trustees
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

September 17, 2024 | 4:30 PM
Smith Hall – Main Campus

In Attendance

M. Bolden; J. Grimes; A. Lewis; C. Martinez; B. Robinson; J. Wright; A. Boakye, President; Mejia, Board Counsel

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair M. Bolden called the meeting to order at 4:38 pm. A quorum was achieved with 6 trustees in attendance.

Open Public Meetings Act Announcement

Trustee J. Grimes read the Open Public Meetings Act into the record. It reads as follows:
In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Essex County College was provided in the following manner: Advance written notice of this virtual meeting was filed on January 2, 2024, and written notice for this meeting was provided to the Essex County College Community, indicating that the meeting will be held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (P.L. 2020 c. 11.) and Board Policy 1-1. Notice of the meeting was also posted on the College website at www.essex.edu. According to records of Essex County College, we have not received written requests or prepayment from any parties for advance notice of meetings.

Minutes

Trustee J. Grimes moved that the minutes of the June 18, 2024, meeting of the Board of Trustees be approved. Trustee C. Martinez seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Communications

Trustee J. Grimes announced that there were no communications.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Lev Zilbermints greeted the audience and welcomed everyone back from the summer. He welcomed newly hired staff and wished them the best. He thanked retiring staff for their contributions to the College and wished the best to those who were moving on to other endeavors. With the closure of the bookstore, he asked the Trustees, the College Administration and the SGA to address the issue of student access to course materials.

Finance Committee Report

Trustee Wright read the finance report into the record in the absence of Trustee Zarra.

Actions – Submitted for Recommendation to the Board

3-1.1/Sept-2024	Resolution Authorizing the Payment for Worker's Compensation New Jersey Community College Insurance Pool, Skillman, New Jersey <i>College Funded – Operating Expense</i>	Amount not to exceed \$171,000.00
3-1.2/Sept-2024	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for Fire Alarm, Fire Suppression, and Burglar Alarm System Testing, Maintenance, and Technical Services Johnson Controls Fire Protection, LP, Totowa, New Jersey <i>College Funded – Operating Expense</i>	Amount not to exceed \$200,000.00

3-1.3/Sept-2024	<p>Resolution Authorizing the award of a Two-Year contract for facility improvements</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Vendor Name</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Vendor Category</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Silvas Mechanical Services</td><td>SBE</td></tr> <tr><td>Tri-County Termite & Pest Control</td><td>SBE</td></tr> <tr><td>Environmental Climate Control, Inc.</td><td>SBE</td></tr> <tr><td>Sport Pro Surfacing, LLC</td><td>SBE</td></tr> <tr><td>Siegel Performance Systems, dba SPS Fitness</td><td>SBE</td></tr> <tr><td>BSN Sports</td><td>SBE</td></tr> <tr><td>Champion Elevator Corporation</td><td>Non-SBE/MBE/WBE</td></tr> <tr><td>Netta Architects LLC</td><td>Non-SBE/MBE/WBE</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Chapter XII Funded – Capital Expense</i></p>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Vendor Category</u>	Silvas Mechanical Services	SBE	Tri-County Termite & Pest Control	SBE	Environmental Climate Control, Inc.	SBE	Sport Pro Surfacing, LLC	SBE	Siegel Performance Systems, dba SPS Fitness	SBE	BSN Sports	SBE	Champion Elevator Corporation	Non-SBE/MBE/WBE	Netta Architects LLC	Non-SBE/MBE/WBE	<p>Amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 Per year</p>
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3-1.4/Sept-2024	<p>Resolution Authorizing the Award of a One-Year Contract to Purchase Furniture</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Company Name</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Vendor's Category</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Media Technologies</td><td>SBE</td></tr> <tr><td>Creative Library Concepts</td><td>SBE</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Chapter XII Funded – Capital Expense</i></p>	<u>Company Name</u>	<u>Vendor's Category</u>	Media Technologies	SBE	Creative Library Concepts	SBE	<p>Amount not to exceed \$300,000.00</p>												
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3-1.6/Sept-2024	<p>Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for the College's Annual Golf Scholarship Fundraiser Maplewood Country Club, Maplewood, New Jersey</p> <p><i>College Funded – Operating Expense</i></p>	<p>Amount not to exceed \$40,000.00</p>																		
3-1.7/Sept-2024	<p>Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for Plumbing Repair and Service William J Guarini, Jersey City, New Jersey</p> <p><i>College Funded – Operating Expense</i></p>	<p>Amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 Per year</p>																		
3-1.8/Sept-2024	<p>Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for Tree Removal Services Downes Tree Service Co, Jersey City, New Jersey</p> <p><i>College Funded – Operating Expense</i></p>	<p>Amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 Per year</p>																		
3-1.9/Sept-2024	<p>Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for HVAC Air Filters Filter Corporation, Compton, CA</p> <p><i>College Funded – Operating Expense</i></p>	<p>Amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 Per year</p>																		

Trustee A. Lewis moved the Finance actions for approval. Trustee B. Robinson seconded the motion. The

motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Committee Report

Trustee B. Robinson advised that the Personnel committee met last week and recommended the approval of the following items:

Actions – Submitted for Ratification – Approved by the Executive Committee in August 2024

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 4-1/Aug-2024 | Administrative
Joyce Ayim
Assistant Dean - Online Education and Resources
Online Education
Effective September 03, 2024
Salary \$97,000.00 |
| 4-2/Aug-2024 | Faculty
Victoria Pangilinan
Assistant Professor - Nursing
Division of Nursing and Health Sciences
Effective: September 03, 2024
Salary \$70,186.00 |
| 4-3/Aug-2024 | Faculty
Shazam Bacchus
Assistant Professor - Nursing
Division of Nursing and Health Sciences
Effective: September 03, 2024
Salary \$68,810.00 |
| 4-4/Aug-2024 | Faculty
Rachel Gasataya
Instructor of Music
Humanities & Bilingual Division
Effective: September 03, 2024
Salary \$58,728.00 |
| 4-5/Aug-2024 | Faculty
Alexandra Tangarife
Assistant Professor of English
Humanities & Bilingual Division
Effective: September 03, 2024
Salary \$58,728.00 |

Actions – Submitted for Recommendation to the Board on September 17, 2024

A. Appointment

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 4-1/Sept-2024 | Administrative Confidential
Hamin Shabazz
Vice President - Academic Affairs/Chief Academic Officer
Academic Affairs
Effective: October 14, 2024
Salary \$155,000.00 |
|---------------|--|

4-2/Sept-2024 Professional II Confidential
Olivia Obanye
Administrative Assistant
Office of the President
Effective: September 23, 2024
Salary \$47,000.00

4-3/Sept-2024 Support Staff Association
Alba De Feijoo
Custodian
Facilities Management
Effective: September 23, 2024
Salary \$31,200.00

4-4/Sept-2024 Support Staff Association
William Thomas
Custodian
Facilities Management
Effective: September 23, 2024
Salary \$31,200.00

4-5/Sept-2024 Support Staff Association
Craig Bennett
Custodian
Facilities Management
Effective: September 23, 2024
Salary \$31,200.00

B. Re-Appointment

4-6/Sept-2024 Administrative Confidential
Dr. Augustine A. Boakye
President
Office of the President
Effective: January 1, 2025

C. Retirement

4-7/Sept-2024 Faculty
Patricia Bartinique
Professor of English
Humanities & Bilingual Studies Division
Effective: August 31, 2024

4-8/Sept-2024 Professional Confidential III
Wayne Yourstone
Senior News Writer
Marketing & Communication
Effective: January 31, 2025

D. Resignation

- 4-9/Sept-2024 Administrative Association
Ruth Ware
Associate Director – Library
MLK Library
Effective: September 9, 2024
- 4-10/Sept-2024 Faculty
Natalee White-Smith
Instructor-Nursing
Division of Nursing and Health Sciences
Effective: September 1, 2024
- 4-11/Sept-2024 Faculty
Aneliia Chatterjee
Instructor- Librarian
MLK Library
Effective: August 19, 2024
- 4-12/Sept-2024 Professional II
May Whyte-Squires
Advisor – Center for Adult Transition
Center for Adult Transition
Effective: August 19, 2024
- 4-13/Sept-2024 Professional I
Taniel Moore
Administrative Assistant
Office of the President
Effective: July 30, 2024
- 4-14/Sept-2024 Professional I
Lance Simon
Administrative Assistant
Community Continuing Education and Workforce Development
Effective: July 18, 2024
- 4-15/Sept-2024 Security Association
Calvin Wilson
Police Officer
Public Safety
Effective: July 15, 2024
- 4-16/Sept-2024 Security Association
Glenn Nash
Security Officer
Public Safety
Effective: July 25, 2024

E. Rescind Appointment

- 4-17/Sept-2024 Security Association
Zaire Ruffin
Police Officer
Public Safety
Effective: June 9, 2024

4-18/Sept-2024 Security Association
Sadrac Auplan
Policer Officer
Public Safety
Effective: June 9, 2024

4-19/Sept-2024 Security Association
Kain Carlisle
Security Officer
Public Safety
Effective: July 8, 2024

F. Contract Ratification

4-20/Sept-2024 Essex County College (ECC) and Essex County College Administrative Association

Trustee Wright moved the Personnel actions for approval. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Educational Programs Committee Report

Trustee Lewis stated the Educational Programs committee met last week and recommended the approval of the following items:

- 7-1.1/Sept-2024 Johnson Controls Community College Partnership Program with Grant of \$100,000
- 7-1.2/Sept-2024 Bloomfield Board of Education - Dual Enrollment Program
- 7-1.3/Sept-2024 Newark Board of Education Middle School Academic Enrichment Program

Trustee Wright moved the Education Programs actions for approval. Trustee Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Site Facilities and Equipment Committee Report

Trustee Martinez advised that the committee did meet and there were no actions to report. She added that Dr. Boakye provided updates on completed and ongoing capital projects that are enhancing the College's educational offerings and campus safety.

Policy and Governance Committee Report

Trustee Grimes advised that the committee met last week and there were no actions. She said that the regulations were discussed along with Title IX. Trustee Bolden added that the board made several policy updates in the last academic year.

Community Relations Committee Report

Trustee Wright advised that the committee met last week and there were no actions. She invited the College community to support the Golf Scholarship Tournament scheduled for October 17th and shared her appreciation for the progress made on the soon-to-be-established Essex County College Athletic Hall of Fame.

Alumni Association Report

The Alumni Association Report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record by Mr. Lev Zilbermints and is attached as Appendix A.

Student Government Association Report

The Student Government Association Report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record by Ms. Naylah Young and is attached as Appendix B.

Faculty Association Report

The Faculty Association Report was submitted electronically and read into the record by Professor Victor Stolberg. It is attached here as Appendix C.

President's Report

The President's Report was submitted electronically and read into the record by Dr. Augustine A. Boakye, President. It is attached here as Appendix D.

After President Boakye completed his report, he asked the audience to give the board of trustees a round of applause for their support. Trustee Bolden welcomed everyone back and said that trustees are here to serve. They are not paid for their services. They are committed to making sure the students succeed.

New Business

Trustee Wright advised that the good work of the board should be supported by the Governor who has yet to make the two board appointments needed to fill existing vacancies.

Public Comments

There were three people who spoke on the record:

Lev Zilbermints submitted his public comments electronically. It reads as follows:

Greetings everyone,

In my first public comments of the 2024-2025 academic year, I would like to mention a few subjects.

First, there is going to be a partial lunar eclipse tonight. It is a supermoon, so this will make the moon appear closer to Earth. Internet says that the peak is at 10:44 p.m. tonight. Make sure you get a good viewing spot.

Second, let me mention the issue of budgets not being distributed to departments here at ECC. As usual, I have my sources of information. So, my question is, how soon will the budgets be distributed? This has even affected ECCAA since the October Pep Rally has been rescheduled. The point is, how are the various departments to know what they can buy if they do not have a budget in front of them? I am told this is the first time in college history such a thing happened. If the non-release of budget affects departments across the college, then how are student clubs, organizations, and departments, to organize the financial aspect of their activities? This is just not good fiscal sense.

Third, I would like to see more plug-ins in the Cafeteria. There are just not enough of these by the walls. Can we have plug-ins for cell phones made into the floor by the tables? Many schools have this. Other than that, how about more plug-ins by the walls in the Cafeteria?

Dean Keith Kirkland encouraged the College community to support the Scholarship Golf Tournament scheduled for October 17th. He shared the various sponsorship levels which include Tournament Sponsor, Dinner Sponsor, Brunch Sponsor, Scholarship Benefactor and Scholarship Donor, among others. He thanked Mr. Bundy, Dean Bello and Ms. Jefferies for their work on the committee.

Trustee Bolden said she was not able to attend the Golf Tournament in the past but will attend this year's tournament.

Dr. Hamin Shabazz also made public comments. He greeted the Board of Trustees and the College community. He expressed gratitude and appreciation for his new role. He said he was deeply honored and grateful for the trust and confidence they placed in him by appointing him as the new Vice President for Academic Affairs. He said he was committed to working diligently to ensure that the Office of Academic Affairs operates smoothly,

efficiently and harmoniously. He also stated that he wants to ensure that it continues to serve and contribute to the success of all ECC students. He looks forward to collaborating with everyone and shared that his door will be open for suggestions, feedback and concerns. He mentioned that he is here to serve and represent the President, faculty, staff and students to the best of his abilities and work together as a team. He is confident that they can and will achieve more goals. He expressed that he was eager to work with everyone and to be able to contribute to the success of all ECC students.

Notice of Executive Session

Trustee Grimes read the Notice of Executive Session. She read as follows:

WHEREAS, The Open Public Meetings Act, 1975 (N.J. Law Chapter 231) permits a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain topics are discussed:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Essex County College shall hold, following this meeting and prior to its next scheduled meeting on October 22, 2024, at 4:30 PM, an Executive Session to discuss the following topics, the general nature of which is limited to Collective Bargaining Agreements, Pending and Existing Contractual Negotiations, Litigation and Personnel Matters. The discussion of these said topics shall be disclosed to the public as soon as reasonable.

She asked for a motion to vote. Trustee Robinson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Chair Bolden asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Robinson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 pm by a vote of acclamation.



**Report to Board of Trustees
October 22, 2024 @ 4:30 pm**

1. Greetings to BOT members, President Boakye, ECC staff and students, and everyone in attendance.
2. I am Lev Zilbermintz, ECCAA Treasurer, and I am pleased to provide an update on the association's progress.
3. First, we thank ECC President Dr. Boakye and his administration for their continued support.
4. The Alumni Association held an Executive Board meeting on October 2, 2024, to discuss fundraising, membership engagement, and community collaboration activities for 2024-2025. The activities will include:
 - Alumni employee luncheon
 - Alumni sports gala
 - Book and food sales
 - Partnership with community youth development organizations
5. The Alumni Association participated in the October 17th Golf Tournament Dinner
6. The association is working with the ECC administration on strategies to fill vacant executive and standing committee positions.
7. Thank you.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
October 2024 Board of Trustees Report

Good evening, Board of Trustee Members, Dr. Boakye, Faculty, and Administration.

My name is Naylah Young. I am the current President of the Student Government Association. I will be reading the October BOT report for SGA this evening.

E-BOARD MEETING

The Executive board meeting for this month was held on October 1, 2024. All executive members and senators attended the meeting. Discussions focused on enhancing overall communication with SGA members and creating a group calendar to track attendance for upcoming events. New members were introduced to their responsibilities as SGA members. The second meeting will be held on the 15th of October.

ICC MEETING

We conducted an ICC meeting with the other clubs on the 26th of September 2024. A total of 9 clubs attended the meeting. Nursing students will be hosting two bake sales this month in order to raise funds for their pinning ceremony. SWE club will also be having a bake sale to raise funds to buy tickets for club members to attend a conference at cherry hill, but they ask for funds to cover transportation costs. The ISC club hosted two virtual workshops in order to help international students to get a LinkedIn profile and also make them learn about OPT and CPT.

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BOAKYE

A meeting with President Boakye took place on October 2nd, 2024. Several Executive members of the SGA were in attendance, along with SGA Advisors Mr. Graham, Dean Kirkland, and Dean Bello. The agenda included important updates on various initiatives. One topic discussed was the current progress of the cafeteria. Another key point was the issue of parking fees and potential adjustments. The group also talked about plans to provide emergency bus passes to students in the future. Updates were provided on the ongoing work at the fitness center and the reconstruction of the library. Lastly, renovations for the Center for Technology were addressed. Overall, the meeting aimed to keep everyone informed about significant developments on campus.

STUDENT FORUM

Our monthly student forum was conducted on October 7th, 2024 at 12:00pm in the Cafeteria Pit. Dean Kirkland, Dean Bello, and executive board members of SGA attended the forum. We briefed the students about the meeting we had with President Boakye about the issues with the cafeteria and parking fees. Our plans to have a mental health awareness program

and provide emergencies bus passes were also announced at the meeting.

ASGA DC CONFERENCE

This year's ASGA conference in Washington, DC, focused on strategies for fostering a more effective SGA. We explored ways to enhance student involvement and ensure that executive members fulfill their responsibilities. Engaging students actively in SGA initiatives was a key topic, highlighting the importance of clear communication and outreach. We learned practical tips on taking effective meeting minutes, ensuring all voices are documented in our decision-making processes. Networking with students from other institutions provided invaluable insights into building a thriving SGA. Their experiences offered fresh perspectives on common challenges and innovative solutions. Additionally, we discussed creating collaborative events that encourage participation and foster a sense of community. Understanding how to motivate executive members to take on their roles seriously was another important takeaway. We extend our gratitude to Mr. Graham for his guidance during this trip.

INITIATIVES FOR THE REST OF OCTOBER AND ONWARD

- Student forums: November 13th and December 3rd
- ICC meetings
- SGA meetings with President Boakye
- General member meeting: October 15th
- Enhanced Civic Engagement Among General Members

Together, we have developed a comprehensive schedule of events aimed at improving the student experience. In summary, our initiatives are diverse and designed to enhance college life. We advocate for student interests, foster community connections, support student well-being, and work towards a more sustainable campus, all of which contribute to the overall quality of student life.

We are excited to implement our initiatives and appreciate any support the board can provide.

Respectfully submitted,

SGA Executive Board
Essex County College
Student Government Association

Essex County College Faculty Association (ECCFA)

Memorandum

To: Ms. Marion Bolden, Chair of the Essex County Board of Trustees & the Board of Trustees

From: Jean-Wilner Alexandre, Associate Professor, ECCFA Representative to ECC Board of Trustees

Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Re: Faculty Report

General Comments

Good evening, members of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Augustine A. Boakye, Cabinet Members, and the Entire College Community,

It is my distinct honor and privilege to present the report on faculty activities. The faculty continues to play an integral role in advancing the mission of the college through their dedication to academic excellence, professional development, and community engagement.

With the Board of Trustees permission, we would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome our new hires to the Essex County College family, especially our distinguished former graduates, Marie Esther Buh and Angelica Laguador. As students, you demonstrated the qualities we deeply value—dedication, excellence, and commitment—and we are excited to see you continue to contribute to our community in this new capacity.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Alvin Williams for his exceptional service as our Academic Dean over the past years. His contributions to the college have been remarkable, and I can confidently say that this is the most overwhelming approval of an administrator I have ever witnessed in my career. Dr. Williams is cherished by 99.9% of the faculty members. The ECCFA wishes you happiness and fulfillment in your new endeavors.

To date, we have conducted over 25 negotiation meetings, all aimed at enhancing the contract to better serve the needs of the faculty while aligning with the college's mission. These efforts reflect our ongoing commitment to achieving a balanced and mutually beneficial agreement.

We have successfully completed the review and a comprehensive comparative analysis of our Constitution and Bylaws, which have not been updated in the past 20 years. This process ensures that our governing documents are aligned with current needs and best practices.

The ECCFA executive committee held their October meeting to discuss the progress in negotiation, the constitution and other business matters related to the association.

Professor Jean-Wilner Alexandre attended the Essex County Education Association (ECEA) Representative Council meeting as a representative of the Essex County College Faculty Association on September 18, 2024.

Professor Jean-Wilner Alexandre attended the fourth annual Byrne Kean Dinner honors the bipartisan legacies of beloved Governors Brendan Byrne and Tom Kean and builds on their famous "Byrne-Kean Dialogues" on October 15th, 2024.

Finally, the Faculty Association purchased 10 seats for the golf tournament to support the college's fundraising efforts, with attendance by 10 faculty members.

Faculty Update/ Activities

AFRICANA INSTITUTE

Under the leadership of Dr. Akil Khalfani, the Africana Institute has organized various activities that promote Essex County College within the community. More importantly, he provides invaluable mentorship to members of the African Students Union, fostering both their personal and academic growth. We are also proud to highlight that, under his guidance, the Africana Institute held the Black Futures Summit in September and has received an important collection of African art.

BUSINESS DIVISION

The Business Division successfully hosted the NJCBAA Fall Meeting on October 4th, 2024, in West Caldwell, with the valuable support and participation of our dedicated faculty members. Their contributions were instrumental in the success of the event.

Professor John D. Hammond, Professor Patrick St Fort, Dr. John Olotewo and Professor Jean-Wilner attended the ACBSP regional meeting at New England College in New Hampshire on the October 10th, 2024.

Professor John D. Hammond, Coordinator of the Finance Program, held the October Financial Literacy Seminar on October 22, 2024, aimed at helping our students develop their financial literacy skills.

Equal Opportunity Fund (EOF Department)

India Calloway, Lecturer/Counselor

Professor Calloway from the Educational Opportunity Fund Program participated in Bloomberg Training through the Business Division on September 16th. Additionally, she attended a Virtual Conference on Transforming Reading Engagement on September 5th.

Mathematics, Engineering Technology and Computer Science

Professors Figueiras and Selimi conducted an informative session on the new A.S. in Computer Science: Data Science program on September 26, 2024

Professor Ines Figueiras chairs the committee that prepared the discussion on the contributions of Hispanics to the American community for Hispanic Heritage Month.

Professors Figueiras and Albuquerque chaperoned six ECC students to a professional development event at Kenvue Corporation on October 3, 2024

Department of Nursing

Gervida G. Constant, MSN, RNC-MNN, CLC
Lead Instructor Nursing 206
RN Clinical Coordinator

- Professor Constant attended an Education Day in Trenton on September 19, 2024, to visit the facility commemorating the state's 60th anniversary of Newborn Screening. This event held great significance for her as a maternity nurse, as it provided the opportunity to observe the specimen processing procedures and the critical importance of adhering to each step precisely. She expressed her amazement at the experience and noted that she acquired a wealth of knowledge that she will be able to impart to her students.
- Professor Constant also participated in the Middlesex Regional Black Nurses Association Conference in Hamilton, NJ, on October 19, 2024. The conference provided a day-long educational experience focused on maternal health.
- Finally, Professor Constant attended the Cancer Walk with her students on October 20, 2024. The event was a success, with thousands of participants walking, and the ECC professors and students were thrilled to take part.

Social Science

Dr. Clare Kajura

From October 2nd to October 4th, Dr. Kajura participated as a Counselor in the development of Motivational Interviewing (MI) training videos that will support the NIH-funded Interactive Internet-based Motivational Interviewing Training for HIV Counseling Support Staff to Improve Health Communication in HIV Care Interactions (IR34MH133468; PI I. Balan). The exercise took place at the Center for Translational Behavioral Sciences, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Sciences, at Florida State University.

Dr. Bridget Turner

Dr Turner participated in a community event in Rahway with a table of information about Essex County College Enrollment, Education Degree Program and Child Development Associate (CDA) Program. She also gave away FREE books to children on September 22

On September 30, 2024, Dr. Bridget Turner, Professor Jean-Wilner Alexandre, and Professor Victor Stolberg attended the inaugural ECEA Legislative Action Team meeting, which was also attended by newly elected Assemblywoman Carmen Morales.

Finally, on Friday, October 18, the Human and Social Services program, led by Professor Mary Jenkins, had its site visit as part of the process toward program accreditation.

Student Development & Counseling

Victor B. Stolberg,

Associate Professor/Counselor

- Participated in the West Essex Campus Open House.
- Attended community outreach events including two for the Essex County Education Association (ECEA), the ECEA New Member Welcome and the ECEA Legislative Action Team Kick-off, as well as the NJEA Northeast Zone Back to School Zoo Event at Turtle Back Zoo.
- Attended SUNY Cortland Alumni Association NYC gathering.
- Attended “Back to School Night” at Bloomfield High School.
- Updated the Substance Abuse bulletin board.
- Completed online training “The Three Dimensions of Emotional Intelligence: Helping People (and ourselves) Find the Balance of Personal Power, Heart & Mindfulness” from Telehealth Certification Institute.
- Attended the Black Futures Summit in the Africana Institute.

Major Faculty Accomplishment

ECCFA is pleased to highlight the accomplishments of our esteemed professor for his well-deserved promotion and the successful completion of his doctorate.

Dr. Lumbsden made a tremendous accomplishment and increased ranking. The Professor obtained his Doctor of Education effective August 31, 2024, from Capella University. His specialization is in Adult Education. Essex County College’s Board of Trustees approved Dr Lumbsden’s promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor effective September 1, 2024.

Samuel L. Lumbsden was an adjunct at Essex County College from September 2000 and then became a full-time faculty member for the Humanities and Bilingual Studies Division in September 2007. He serves the Division by teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). Professor Lumbsden's Personal Mission Statement is: "To teach students of different ethnicities and people from all walks of life reading, writing, communicative, and English skills and to share and discuss with them real-life experiences; thus, empowering them to achieve their vocational, academic, educational, professional, or personal goals."

Professor Lumbsden serves the College in varied ways, in addition to teaching. For instance, he is the ESL Coordinator and is a member of many departmental, divisional, and college-wide committees. Besides, he interfaces with the Essex County College's Testing Center and is actively involved in assisting students to register for classes. He is an active member of the ECC's Institutional Review Board (IRB) Committee

Concluding Remarks

The faculty members continue to demonstrate their unwavering commitment to the institution by actively enhancing their professional skills, utilizing their expertise to serve the broader community, and supporting college activities such as the golf tournament and open houses. Additionally, they consistently strive for excellence in the classroom, contributing to the overall success and advancement of the college's mission.

Dr Turner participated in a community event in Rahway with a table of information about Essex County College Enrollment



Essex County College students, staff, and professors participated in the cancer walk alongside my students on October 20, 2024.





ECC Faculty Members attending the Golf Tournament



Professor Ines Figueiras on a Field Trip with the Students



Memorandum

To: Dr. M. Bolden & the Board of Trustees

From: Dr. Augustine A. Boakye, President, Essex County College

Date: October 22, 2024

Re: President's Monthly Report

General:

Congratulations to Essex County College for receiving the 2024 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award provided by *Insight Into Diversity*. ECC is one of only 16 institutions of higher learning across the United States to receive this Award. This demonstrates our commitment to diversity and recognizes the hard work of our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belongingness (DEIB) team here on campus.

RedShelf is now our official partner providing textbooks and course materials for our students. I thank our academic leaders, Enrollment Services and Information Technology for helping with the transition. RedShelf is joined by University Gear Shop (UGS), the new entity running our Campus Store. UGS provides branded merchandise and apparel through strategic marketing, social media, events, technology and e-commerce. Our Office of Student Affairs and the Student Government Association are working with UGS to ensure that the needs of our students are met.

Academics

The programmatic accreditation site visit for our Human and Social Services Division took place on October 16th and 17th. I thank our leaders Dr. Bridgeforth, Prof. Jenkins, Dr. Linfante, Dr. Runfeldt, our students and the entire campus community for their work on our self-study.

More Good News for ECC!

As part of our objective to make our education truly global, our students are participating in the Bloomberg Trading Global Challenge with more than 2,000 teams representing 46 countries. The ECC West Essex Campus Capital team, led by Yogi Patel, is ranked number 47 worldwide after one week of trading. Go Wolverines!

The West Essex Campus and the Business Division hosted the New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association (NJCBAA) fall meeting on October 4th. The NJCBAA is an honor society that brings together faculty and students from more than 25 institutions of higher learning in New Jersey. Thank you, Chair Albuquerque and your team for leading this effort on behalf of ECC.

Enrollment Management

Our 2024-2025 Academic Year is off to a good start with an increase in New Student enrollment and in overall enrollment over the prior year i.e. 7,026 students for Fall 2024 as compared to 6,790 in Fall 2023. I thank our Enrollment Services team and the College community for helping us support more students.

Student Support

- Twenty students representing various high schools in our community received the inaugural High School Presidential scholarship this year. We congratulate them and thank our fundraising partners for making this possible.

- Through the efforts of our Student Affairs Office, the Community Food Bank of New Jersey will support our Thanksgiving giveaways this year with several food items including cases of Turkey, Chicken, Ham and Holiday boxes. Congratulations to our Student Affairs office for building strategic and fruitful partnerships in support of our students.

The President's September/October Engagements have included:

- September 23rd: Participated in the New Jersey Presidents Council meeting in Trenton with Trustee A. Lewis.
- September 24th: Participated in the Newark Anchor Collaborative Q3 quarterly meeting.
- September 25th: Held a fruitful meeting with Ms. Yvonne G. Patterson of the Patterson Foundation to explore partnership opportunities for South Essex Educational Development (SEED).
- September 26th: The Africana Institute, with support from the City of Newark, organized fruitful discussions with government officials from Angola.
- September 28th: Participated in a well-attended Open House at the West Essex Campus. I appreciate the continued efforts by our Enrollment Services team to engage our community and expand educational opportunities to all.
- October 1st: Attended the Hispanic Heritage Month Speaker Series with Panelists: ASM C. Morales, Trustee C. Martinez, Prof. Frank Duroy, ECC Alum Jose Medina-Pardo and Ms. Tanya Munyan.
- October 2nd: Attended the Richmond Fed Presentation for New Jersey Presidents.
- Held fruitful discussions with the 2024 SGA leadership and shared my appreciation for their commitment to *Students First*.
- October 3rd: Joined our faculty for the College Curriculum meeting.
- October 3rd: Held a partnership meeting with NJIT as we continue to explore areas for collaboration through cross-registration, articulation agreements and space sharing.
- October 4th: Hosted the NJCBAA fall conference at the West Essex campus.
- October 7th: Participated in the International Teaching Excellence Award of ACBSP.
- October 8th: Attended the Newark Alliance 25th Anniversary Celebration.
- October 10th: Had a success meeting with the faculty to discuss Tenure Track and Promotion requirements and best practices.
- October 15th: Our Human Resources team held a successful Employee Benefits Fair, and over 325 staff members participated. I thank our dedicated Human Resources team for continuing to seek the best interests of our staff.
- October 15th: Participated in the Closing Ceremony and Luncheon for Hispanic Heritage Month. I appreciate the work of the Co-Chairs, volunteers and the entire campus community in showcasing our cultural diversity and the tremendous benefits our experiences bring to ECC.
- October 16th: Participated in the University Heights Science & Technology Park Board meeting.
- October 17th: We held our 24th Golf Outing and Scholarship Fundraiser. ECC is grateful for the continued support of the College community, our sponsors, the Foundation Board, the Board of Trustees and the organizers of this important event in support of our students.
- October 21st: Participated in the New Jersey President's Council meeting.
- October 21st: Participated in the Newark Public Schools Guidance Counselors meeting held at the Main Campus.

Finances

- Our annual audit process is underway.

Projects:

- The Library/Learning Center project is moving per scheduled. Thanks to Executive Dean Seddiki for overseeing the project with passion.

Community Relations:

- Interest in our dual-enrollment program is expanding with close to 600 students representing several high schools this fall semester.
- Our 2024 Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15th – October 15th) engaged the College community through:
 - ❖ An Art Exhibit, Salsa Class, Pioneers of Change Guest Speaker panel, Cultural Performances and Fall trivia co-sponsored by Student Life and the Latinx Engagement Center. The Pioneers of Change panelists included Assemblywoman Morales, Trustee Martinez, ECC graduate Jose F. Medina-Pardi, Ms. Tanya Munyan and ECC Professor Frank Duroy.

Other Important Information:

- Congratulations to Dr. Leigh Bello on her beautiful wedding last Sunday.
- Best wishes to Dr. Alvin Williams as his transitions to the next stage of his life.
- Once again, we welcome Dr. Hamin Shabazz to the College as our new VPAA/CAO

Save the dates – Upcoming Events.

- Thursday, May 29, 2025 – Graduation at the Prudential Center

Madam Chair, this ends my report. Thank you.