Nappier will give keynote at May 27 commencement

State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier will give the keynote address at GCC’s 18th commencement on Thursday, May 27.

A record number of GCC students — more than 650 — are expected to graduate at the event that will begin at 6 p.m. at Woolsey Hall at Yale University, 500 College St., New Haven.

As Connecticut’s chief elected financial officer, Nappier oversees $50 billion in state funds, including the $22 billion Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds. Her innovative and effective leadership has saved taxpayers and businesses hundreds of millions of dollars.

She is the first African-American woman elected to serve as a state treasurer in the United States and the first African-American woman elected to a statewide office in Connecticut. Elected in 1998 and re-elected in 2002 and 2006, Nappier also is the only woman to be elected treasurer in Connecticut history.

This year’s commencement event will also honor retired state Rep. William Dyson with a Board of Trustees Merit Award from the Connecticut Community-Technical College System. The award recognizes extraordinary service or lifetime commitment to GCC and the state’s community-technical college system.

A retired New Haven teacher, Dyson was first elected in 1976 to serve in the Connecticut General Assembly as the representative for the 94th District, which includes a section of New Haven. He has a long history as a supporter of GCC, including support for our new campus and our nursing program.

At the time of his retirement, Dyson was the longest serving lawmaker in the House of Representatives and was longtime chairman of the budget-writing Appropriations Committee, served on the Human Services Committee, and held multiple terms as assistant majority leader. He also was vice chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the National Black Caucus and State Legislators.

Webcam launched for campus construction site

Dimeo Construction, the construction manager for GCC’s new campus downtown, has launched a webcam for the project that is on the roof of the nearby Knights of
GCC students, faculty participate in 'Iron Chef' 2010

Columbus building (center rear of photo) and gives a birds-eye view of just about the entire site.

Click here to access the webcam — and check back regularly to see for yourself how things are progressing without leaving your desk. Axis Media Control, or Active X, is required to view the webcam; to install it, follow the prompts at the link.

Doug Peckham, project executive for Dimeo, said work in April continued on schedule. Concrete foundation work, which began in February, actively continued at both the north and south sites. Crews continued to pour concrete mat slabs, footings and foundation walls at both sites. The temporary de-watering systems and perimeter earth retention systems also continued.

“We're setting up to start the first phase of the structural steel within the footprint of the new tunnel roadway on the north building site by mid-June,” Peckham said. “Once that is completed, then we'll commence the pre-cast concrete garage, which is located within the north building, by early July.”

The underground tunnel roadway, which has been closed since December 2009, is scheduled to re-open for deliveries by early August. The building structural steel for both sites is scheduled to commence in September.

The construction site is made up of two parcels, one located north of the other, on 3.7 acres that formerly were home to a Macy's and Edw. Malley Co. department store at 2-20 Church Street. The four-story, 358,000-square-foot campus will include a 600-car pre-cast parking garage, which adds another 200,000 square feet to the project.

The state Department of Public Works is administering the project. The $198 million campus is one of the largest construction projects the state has ever undertaken and its first public building designed to be gold-certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

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New eBook collections expand library catalog by 50%

The GCC library’s collection of books has expanded more than 50 percent with the recent addition of more than 22,000 eBooks to its online catalog, bringing the total collection available to students to more than 60,000 books.

The new titles, which were added from NetLibrary and ebrary, can be read on a computer or compatible electronic reader device. They are all searchable from the online catalog.

To access the eBooks, click here to go to the library’s homepage and then click on the “eBooks” button. Each eBook title has two links online — one for on-campus users, which does not require authentication, and one for off-campus users, which requires users to log on to myCommNet first. Both links take users to the full-text of the book online.

Director of Library Services Clara Ogbaa said most of the...
Nursing student awarded Nightingale scholarship

Click here to see campus events listed on our website.

President's Corner

President's Corner is Gateway Community College's campus newsletter. It is published by the college's Public Relations and Marketing Department.

Gateway's Mission

Gateway Community College offers high-quality instruction and comprehensive services in an environment conducive to learning. We respond to the changing academic, occupational, technological, and cultural needs of a diverse population.

Alternative energy transportation class on NBC-30

GCC’s alternative fuels transportation class was featured in a “Going Green” news segment on NBC-30 on April 26. To see the story, click here.

GCC’s lead alternative fuels instructor Tony Rish was interviewed, as were students from his class.

Dietetic technology accredited for 5 more years

GCC's dietetic technology program recently received a five-year extension on its accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE), the accrediting agency for the American Dietetic Association.

The associate degree program prepares students to become registered dietetic technicians, who work under the supervision of a registered dietitian in health care, community nutrition, and food service management programs. Registered dietetic technicians function as active members of the nutrition team by assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating the nutritional care of individuals or by supervising food service operations.

GCC’s dietetic technology program has had 331 graduates since it was launched in 1971 and another seven students are expected to graduate from the this year.

CADE is an autonomous accrediting agency for education programs preparing students to begin careers as registered dietitians or dietetic technicians, registered. It establishes and enforces eligibility requirements and accreditation standards that ensure the quality and continued improvement of nutrition and dietetics education programs that reflect the evolving practice of dietetics. GCC is one of 51 dietetic technician programs nationwide accredited by CADE.

“I want to thank our hard-working faculty and staff for helping us to reach this wonderful achievement,” said GCC Professor Marcia Doran, M.S., R.D., who is also the dietetic technology program director. “This distinction not only reflects the quality of our instructors and curriculum, but also speaks volumes about the quality of our graduates.”

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Pell Grants can now be used in summer semester
As part of an expansion of the federal Pell Grant Program, the more than 3,000 Pell Grant recipients who attend GCC may now use their grants to attend classes in the summer.

As a result, the number of GCC students with Pell Grants who have signed up for summer classes is now close to 300, up from less than 100 in 2009.

The expansion allows full-time fall and spring Pell recipients at GCC to receive up to 150 percent of their existing grant this year and apply the additional 50 percent to classes in the summer semester, said Raymond Zeek, director of financial aid at GCC.

This is the first time Pell Grants, which cover the entire cost of tuition at community colleges, have been able to be used for summer semesters, he said.

“This expansion of the program will reduce the amount of time it takes students to get a degree, making them career-ready faster,” Zeek said. “That’s a win-win situation.”

The expansion of the Pell Grant Program that allowed for this change was part of the Higher Education and Opportunity Act, which was signed into law Aug. 14, 2008.

The federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain post-baccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education. Students may use their grants at any one of approximately 5,400 participating postsecondary institutions. Grant amounts are dependent on: the student's expected family contribution; the cost of attendance; the student's enrollment status; and whether the student attends for a full academic year or less.

As a lecturer and teacher, he came to national prominence with “Landscapes Through Time with David Dunlop,” which debuted to great success in June 2008. The show travels with Dunlop as he follows the lives and artistic paths of celebrated artists such as Turner, Monet and Renoir. Dunlop journeyed to the enchanting locations these artists visited, and then learns how they transformed that vision into a familiar painting, such as Monet's water lily garden in Giverny, Van Gogh's asylum in Provence and the Hudson River Painters' Kaaterskill Falls in New York.
**Sustainability Studies Certificate launches this month**

GCC’s Center for a Sustainable Future will begin offering a new certificate in sustainability studies this month.

In all, it includes 17 professional development courses in three areas: sustainable business and economic development, green technologies for the new economy and understanding green employment and living. They may be taken individually or grouped together to earn a certificate. The courses include:

- Business Law in a Greening Business Environment;
- Selling Green: Rationale, Approaches and Psychology;
- Introduction to Alternative Energy Transportation;
- Urban Organic Farming and Land Care; and,
- Employability Skills for a Greening Economy.

For more information about these courses or the new certificate, call the Center for a Sustainable Future hotline at (203) 285-2448 and leave your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

**300 attend ‘Green-Up Your Career Day’ April 10**

More than 300 people attended the “Green-Up Your Career Day” education fair on April 10 on the North Haven campus.

Hosted by GCC’s Center for a Sustainable Future, the event was free and open to the public.

It featured GCC instructors and counselors who were on hand to discuss GCC’s new “green” sustainable education programs, as well as career paths and internships.

Representatives from green companies also were available to discuss careers and job opportunities and information on financial support and counseling was available from participating workforce development agencies, veterans’ support groups, the Connecticut Department of Labor and The Workplace Inc.

**Trumbull Inventor Tim Dolan** discussed hydrogen applications for the home and businesses and a live “webinar” was held with **Career Talk Guys** Doug Beabout and Kevin Sutton, who will discuss “Preparing Yourself to Fill the Green Gap.”

GCC is a leader in green initiatives among state institutions of higher education. Through its Center for a Sustainable Future, GCC has established robust education and training programs that are preparing the in-state green workforce of the future. The center is committed to playing an integral role in the sustainable economic development of Connecticut and facilitating the transition to renewable energy resources, sustainable building development, energy efficiency programs, alternative transportation technologies and water management.
GCC launches ‘ReNew Haven Forum’ seminar series

GCC’s Center for a Sustainable Future (CSF) kicked off its ReNew Haven Forum seminar series on April 29 with “How 5MillionGreenJobs.com Will Grow America’s Green Economy” on its Long Wharf campus.

Building on the success of its recent White House Jobs Forum, CSF continued the conversation by exploring issues related to building the “new” economy in the New Haven area with keynote speaker Jean William, founder and CEO of 5MillionGreenJobs.com in New Haven.

The child of immigrant parents from Haiti who eventually settled in Stamford, William spent his earliest years growing up in The Village, a low income housing project in Stamford. Later he graduated from Norwalk Community College, and then from the University of Connecticut with a bachelor’s degree in management information systems, which led to a career with a Fortune 500 company.

5MillionGreenJobs.com is a start-up that aims to be an online network that will link people, jobs, training, information and expertise to develop the expanding green economy and create job growth.

ELC news: ‘Little Read’ and partnership with Yale

GCC’s Early Learning Center (ELC) participated in the “Little Read” project on April 6, a citywide program initiated by the New Haven Early Childhood Council.

As part of the event (photo), 35 parents and their children came to the ELC on the Long Wharf campus for an evening centered around the rewarding ritual of reading aloud to children. Teachers Susan Glynn and Josh Berrios read the featured story, “Read to Me/Vamos a leer” in both English and Spanish.

Families joined teachers in the classrooms for continued conversation and a creative art activity related to the book. Participants also explored the ELC Family Lending Library and participated in related discussions, including exploring the question, “Why do children want to read the same book over and over again?”

Also, the ELC joined with the Yale School of Music to present its End of Year Family Event May 11 with music, dinner and dancing at the John Daniels School.

In addition to celebrating the year with the ELC families, the ELC staff is collecting funds at the event to purchase a new trombone for a gifted young musician who is a student at John Daniels School in New Haven and a music student of an ELC dad.
GCC students, faculty participate in ‘Iron Chef’ 2010

GCC students and faculty were key participants in the third annual “Iron Chef – Elm City” event on April 18.

The event, which is based on the popular Food Network Iron Chef program, featured local chefs as participants and prominent culinary experts as judges. The chefs were provided with a list of five possible “secret” ingredients prior to the event. The secret ingredient, which was coffee this year, was announced at the event and the chefs were required to create an appetizer, entrée and dessert using that ingredient. Celebrity judges then evaluated the dishes and selected a winner.

For the past two years, the event was held at GCC, but to accommodate the anticipated number of spectators, this year’s event will be held at Delia’s at 4 Laser Lane in Wallingford. The chefs that competed this year were: Yousef Ghalaini of Bespoke; Francesco d’Amuri of L’Orcio; and Daniel Sergei of Basta. Ghalani won the competition.

The event is organized by GCC and the Regional Growth Partnership of Greater New Haven. It is the brainchild of GCC Professor Stephen Fries, who is also a food columnist for the New Haven Register.

Michael Devlin, a pastry instructor at GCC, was one of the culinary commentators at this year’s event and other instructors and students were also involved (see photo of student Matthew Schneider assisting Chef Sergei of Basta.)

A portion of the proceeds will go to support scholarships through the Gateway Community College Foundation.

Faculty & Staff Highlights

Employee news: Tenures, promotions and a sabbatical

Our congratulations go out to those GCC employees who were recently granted tenure, promoted or were granted a sabbatical.

The following individuals, listed with their updated job titles where applicable, were recently promoted:

- Ann Cohen, continuing education coordinator;
- Suzanne Conlon, associate professor in the nursing program;
- John Desrosiers, assistant director of information technology;
- Evelyn Gard, director of marketing and public relations;
- Karen Kessler, professor in the nursing program;
- Lorraine Li, associate professor in the economics department;
- Maribel Lopez, associate registrar in the records department;
- Steven McDowell, Jr., associate director of financial aid;
- Cathy Mebane, professor in the early childhood education program;
- Victoria Morse, associate professor in the foreign languages department;
Andrew Randi, professor in the culinary arts program; Richard Rees, professor/DC in the business department; Kim Shea, director of admissions in the Admissions Office; Tingkang Shen, assistant professor in the mathematics department; and, Raymond Zeek, director of admissions in the Financial Aid Office.

The following individuals were granted tenure:

- Vincent Baldassano, assistant professor in the art department;
- Susan Chenard, assistant professor in the developmental English department;
- Claudio Haeckel, associate professor in the nursing program;
- Lorraine Li, associate professor in the economics department;
- Joseph Maynard, history instructor;
- Roberta Prior, director of student leadership programs and activities in the College Life Office; and,
- Marjorie Weiner, director of the Early Learning Center.

Also, Doree Robinson, an English professor, was granted a five-month sabbatical, which will begin Jan. 20, 2011 and end June 1, 2011.

**GCC welcomes eight new employees to campus**

On April 23, GCC held a reception to welcome eight new employees to campus.

Please join us in congratulating them on their new positions. They are:

- **Michael Buccilli, director of career services** (left in photo) - Buccilli graduated from SCSU with a MSW in management and was the associate director of the Women and Families Center in Meriden. He also is currently active with the Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce, Young Business Leaders of Connecticut and is a member of the MidState Medical Center Business Advisory Council;

- **Richard Catenza, electrician** (second from left in photo) - Catenza graduated from New England Technical Institute with his electrical license and has worked in the private sector for the past several years;

- **Daniel Estremera, custodian** (third from left in photo) - Estremera currently works for the New Haven Board of Education as a school safety officer. He has also worked for the city of Bridgeport as a custodian at the Long Fellow School;

- **Dorrick Gordon, custodian** - Gordon joins us from Fine Line Builders Construction Co., where he was a painter. He has more than 20 years of experience in the building and grounds and safety management field;

- **Mary-Lynn Labonty, payroll officer** (fourth from left in photo) - Labonty graduated from Post University with a BS degree in general studies. She is a human resources assistant with the state Department of Children and Families and she has also worked for Capital Community College as a payroll clerk, as well as for private businesses;
• **Matthew Long, director of student development services** (far right in photo) - Long graduated from Johnson & Wales University with the Ed.D in leadership in higher education and was the associate director of student financial and administrative services for Yale University. He is currently active in the National Journal of Student Employment, the Connecticut Association of Professional Financial Aid Administration and the National Association of College and University Business Officers;

• **Patricia Martin, financial administrative assistant** (second from right in photo) - Martin graduated from GCC with an associate degree in general studies. She is currently an FAA with the Department of Labor. She has also worked in the payroll field with several private businesses; and,

• **Lucian Simone, director of facilities and events management** - Simone graduated from the University of New Haven with an MS in environmental science and has been working as a facility manager/project manager for the New Haven Public School System, as well for the Providence public schools.

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**Instructor nets Center for a Sustainable Future Award**

Nursing Instructor Karen Taylor was awarded the 1st annual Center for a Sustainable Future Award on April 10 during the center’s “Green-Up Your Career Day” education fair on the North Haven campus.

Taylor, who is also an instructor in continuing education for health care professionals, was honored for outstanding work in developing a program that calls public attention to the problem and mobilizes health care professionals to find solutions for hospital-borne infections in health care institutions, infections that kill 100,000 people a year in the United States. Taylor and her daughter (left and right behind table in photo) staffed an exhibit emphasizing the importance of infection prevention at the April 10 event.

“Karen has made Gateway a center for addressing this problem at a time when the federal government, Medicare, and insurance companies have made this a national priority,” said Dr. David N. Cooper, dean of corporate and continuing education and one of the founders of the Center for a Sustainable Future.

“The concept of ‘sustainability’ represents far more than clean energy or other well-known ‘green’ initiatives. It reaches into our lives in a holistic sense of healthy and safe living by protecting ourselves in our environment,” Cooper said.

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**Reception for Administrative Professionals Day**

A reception was held April 21 for administrative assistants across campus in honor of Administrative Professionals Day.
As part of the event, participants took part in a build-an-edible-bouquet contest. See photo for the winners: Kelly Levinson from Purchasing won first place; Bennyta Claytor from Financial Aid won second place; and Lori Scott from the nursing program won third place.

Our sincerest thanks go out to all our administrative professionals for all they do every day to help us achieve our mission to offer high-quality instruction and comprehensive services in an environment conducive to learning.

Core Committee food drive raises more than $400

The GCC Core Committee’s Spring Food Drive in April collected 127 food items and $162, both of which are eligible for a financial match that means the drive earned an additional $289, according to Kim Shea, director of admissions, who helped organize the drive.

All donations will benefit the Christian Community Action Food Bank. The donations were matched by the Feinstein Foundation.

English professor wins 1st prize in CT poetry contest

Our congratulations go out to GCC English Professor Martha Hayes, who won first prize in the Gerard F. Melito Poetry Contest held in April by Altrusa International Inc. of Central Connecticut.

Here is her winning entry titled, “Ella Clare – 7/10/08”:

And to think that some day
she might stand on this sunlit porch,
the grass as green as it is this morning.
And with all the loveliness of June and Saturday
spread out around her, holler

It’s not fair.

Perhaps because you’ve
refused her the car, or permission to tattoo
herself, or maybe because the ice caps
have finally given in to the sea,
and the flow of water is beyond your control.
You, whose arms she will come to believe
can hold the world.

But tonight she sleeps,
first sleep from the womb.
And the fire flies sparkle against the
dark, and the grass waits patiently
for the dew to form as this day
Step Forward director in local autism TV series

Jaime French, program director of GCC’s Step Forward program, was among those featured in a six-part Autism Awareness series aired in April on Guilford Community TV, a public access station that serves Guilford and surrounding communities.

The series, which was produced over 18 months, was hosted by Guilford resident Tony Fappiano as part of Autism Awareness Month.

Step Forward is a non-credit transition program for young adults with learning challenges and barriers to employment and education. It is designed to prepare these students for the work force and life after high school, which may include community college and other vocational training. The curriculum includes character education and current events.

Humanities instructor selected for history workshop

Renee A. Gaines, an instructor in GCC’s Humanities Department, has been selected to participate in a “Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop” in Savannah, Georgia, in July.

The workshop will focus on the Gullah culture of the Seacoast Islands. It is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Georgia Historical Society.

Professor chairs Cooking for CASA event May 12

For the second consecutive year, GCC Professor Stephen Fries will be honorary chair of Cooking for CASA, a fundraiser for Children in Placement, a non-profit organization that trains community volunteers to speak up for abused and neglected children in court. The event will be held May 12 at Amarante’s Sea Cliff in New Haven and will feature Desiree Fontaine from WTNH-TV as host.

Student Highlights

Business student honored at Capitol in April

In April, GCC student Christopher J. Stokes was among the students honored at College Academic Day at the Capitol in Hartford.
Each year, state lawmakers honor outstanding students from each of Connecticut’s public and private colleges and universities at College Academic Day. The students are selected by their respective schools, based on academic achievement and extra-curricular involvement. Stokes, a Hamden resident, is studying business administration with an accounting option at GCC.

Students were honored at a state capitol reception, received an official citation from the Connecticut General Assembly and were formally introduced during session to the Connecticut State Senate and House of Representatives.


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New SGA officers sworn in for 2010-11

GCC’s new Student Government Association officers for the 2010-11 year were sworn in at a ceremony on May 5 on the Long Wharf campus in Room 160.

They are: President Nancy Touba, Vice President Ashley Blasczyk, Treasurer Jovane Galarza, and Secretary Kimberly Grant.

Matthew Long, GCC’s new director of student development services, facilitated the swearing-in ceremony, offering words of wisdom and encouragement.

In photo, left to right are: Roberta Prior, director of student leadership programs and activities in the Office of College Life, Ashley Bellus, CAB chair, Grant, Blasczyk, Touba and Long.

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Business student wins ‘Elevator Pitch’ competition

GCC student Jessica Woods won the best presentation by a community college student in the 60-second Connecticut Collegiate Elevator Pitch Competition, which was held April 23 at the New Haven Lawn Club.

Woods, who is graduating in May, was one of three entrepreneurial majors from GCC to enter the competition. The other two were Jamie Glazewski and Taylor Gibbons. In addition to a trophy, Woods took home a cash prize of $500.

The event, which attracted college students across Connecticut, was sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, Warbros Venture Partners, Connecticut Innovations, Launch Capital and the Entrepreneurship Foundation.
Our congratulations go out to everyone who participated, including Adjunct Professor Elisa Chollet, who also received a trophy as Wood’s faculty support.

Students participate in nuclear medicine symposium

GCC nuclear medicine technology students Aiyu Wong, Rebeca Cuadrado and Xiangning Wang participated with poster presentations in the student program at the 41st annual Spring Symposium of the Society of Nuclear Medicine New England Chapter, Technologist Section.

The event was held April 9-10 in Plymouth, Mass. Nuclear medicine combines chemistry, physics, mathematics, computer technology, and medicine in using radioactivity to diagnose and treat disease.

Wong, a Norwich resident, presented a poster titled “111Indium Pentetreotide in Detection and Localization of Mesenchymal Tumors.” Cuadrado, a New Haven resident, presented a poster titled “Analysis of 99mTc-EC20 and 111In-DPTA-Folate imaging agents in the detection of tumors with high folate receptor expression.” And Wang, also New Haven resident, presented a poster titled “Comparison of Three Protocols for Gastric Emptying Scintigraphy.” (In photo, from left, are Wong, Cuadrado and Wang.)

Art students’ end of semester exhibition now open

The Gallery of Art at Gateway Community College hosted a reception May 6 for the opening of “The Gateway Art Students’ End of Semester Exhibition.”

The Gallery of Art at Gateway Community College is located in Room 161 on GCC’s Long Wharf campus.

The gallery’s hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information on the exhibit, call (203) 285-2241.

Nursing student awarded Nightingale scholarship

On April 15, GCC nursing student April McGrath was one of five nursing students from around the state to receive a 2010 Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing Scholarship valued at $1,200.

The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing are non-competitive and inclusive of all health care settings — hospitals, home health care, health centers, schools,
health departments, long-term care facilities, nursing schools, agencies, and medical practices.

Since 2006, the Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing, hosted by the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut, has awarded $27,000 in scholarships. The goal of the Nightingale Awards are to encourage retention, inspire future nurses, focus public attention on and recognize the breadth and scope of nursing practice at the local level.

McGrath, a Naugatuck resident, is also president of GCC’s Student Nurses’ Association. The other four winners of the 2010 awards were students from Quinnipiac University, Sacred Heart University, Southern Connecticut State University and the Yale University School of Nursing.

In photo, from left to right, are: John R. Quinn, president & CEO of VNA Health Systems, McGrath, and Nurse Counselor Barbara Rudolph, who presented McGrath with her award.

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