

I. Major Research and Public Service Activities
2008-2009

Accreditation with Accolades

Middle States Commission on Higher Education conducted their analysis of BCC in the fall of 2008. The results were that BCC met all 14 standards with zero recommendations and a total of 22 commendations. The final report was a confirmation of what BCC already believed to be true – BCC is the best community college in the region.

High Honors

The 2008-09 year was filled with high academic achievements. The BCC student team of Joan Conrad and Christin Kilmer placed second in a regional competition when they participated in the Philadelphia Society of Radiologic Technologists Annual Student Day Techni-Bowl. Placing only slightly behind the students of St. Christopher’s Hospital, BCC stood tall among all the medical schools as they proved that BCC’s technical training of health care professionals is top notch even in head-to-head competition.

The College’s 39th Commencement Ceremony included the largest graduating class in the College’s history. One of the many highlights of the ceremony was the surprise scholarship announcement for the valedictorian, Michelle Smith of Willingboro. Her story of triumph over tragedy and her strong desire to become a counselor earned her high honors as well as a full scholarship to Wilmington University.



Going Green

The College made several strides toward providing an environmentally-friendly learning atmosphere. Inside the classroom, art students participated in a county project of designing environmentally friendly Farmer’s Market. replaced some outdated Plans to extend the campus were in full swing creation of a solar-Pemberton campus.



shopping bags for the Columbus Meanwhile, the Office of Public Safety gas vehicles with electric patrol cars. Meadow Project to the Mt. Laurel while bids were accepted on the powered maintenance facility for the

Community Service

This year marked the introduction of the Bonner AmeriCorps Leadership Program onto the BCC campuses. Through the generous funding from the Bonner Foundation, students were able to participate as Americorp Leaders in several community projects. From animal shelter clean up to reading to preschoolers, BCC students were actively involved in Global Youth Service Day.



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AmeriCorps students continued to think globally and act locally when they pieced together a panel of homeless people who shared their personal life journeys. The panel discussion was followed by a banquet which illustrated the various degrees of hunger throughout the world.

BCC students organized a fun-filled community outreach program that engaged both elementary students and senior residents. In an innovative format, the Education Club staged an event entitled, “Are You Smarter Than a 6th Grader?” where local 6th grade students faced off against select residents aged 50 and older. Lots of laughs and lessons were wrapped up into this event held on the Pemberton campus.

NASA Events

Through the financial support from a NASA grant, BCC’s NASA program was able to introduce several new programs to the community. Most notably, the NASA Speaker Series was introduced and the College welcomed several guest speakers including: astronaut Ken Mattingly, marine biologist Dr. Sylvia Earle, author Homer Hickam and meteorologist Dr. Steve Lyons. The series of speakers was free and open to all residents and included NASA enthusiasts of all ages.

A huge hit with the k-12 population was the start of a NASA summer camp program. This new camp series was free to the public and offered a summer filled with hands-on science experiments. Based on different ages, groups of students were invited to participate in everything from building rockets to the science of making ice cream.

Supporting Our Troops

The Community College of the Air Force extended an invite to only a handful of community colleges to become part of their unique program of partnering with colleges to offer core subject matter. BCC now offers online general education courses through the Air Force’s General Education Mobile (GEM) program.

For the first time, the College was part of a joint effort with the office of Burlington County Military & Veterans Services to provide support and explanation about veterans services. Together, the two organizations planned and hosted a Veterans Benefit Session which was held on the Pemberton campus. The session helped educate local veterans on how to make the most of their benefits.

Athletics Accomplishments

In January, the men’s and women’s basketball teams both showed support of “Coaches for a Cure” when they participated in this breast cancer awareness campaign. In addition to donating funds to this regional effort, the players also wore pink socks during their games to help build awareness of the need to find a cure for breast cancer.

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After being ranked #1 in the region for most of the season, the BCC's golf team went on to compete in the NJCAA National tournament. The team placed 3rd and plans to welcome back all of its players for the 2010 season.

For the first time in BCC history, the baseball team claimed the National Junior College Athletic Association Region 19 Championship title. BCC's shortstop Matthew Weaver boasted a stellar season that garnered the attention of several professional baseball teams. In the end, it was the Atlanta Braves who drafted Matt in the 8th round (268th overall pick) of the Major League Baseball draft.

40th Anniversary Kick Off

In April, the College ceremonially kicked off its 40th Anniversary with a series of cake-cuttings on each campus and at each center. The anniversary celebration will continue with a series of events through May 2010 when BCC will host its 40th commencement ceremony.

