

### ***III: Additional Institutional Information***

#### ***Mission Statement***

Bergen Community College educates a diverse student population in a supportive and challenging academic environment that fosters civility and respect. The College offers a comprehensive set of accessible, affordable, high-quality credit and non-credit courses as well as degree and non-degree programs. Bergen provides life-long learning opportunities for all members of the community. The College responds to community needs through work force training and continuing education, and by developing programs for employers.

#### ***Vision Statement***

As a college of choice, Bergen Community College provides a comfort level that enables students of all abilities to mature as learners and engaged citizens. A leading community college in the nation, the College creates a stimulating, rigorous, and inclusive learning environment. Use of innovative technology enhances learning experiences and widens access to learning media. Community and business leaders value the College as a reliable partner and principal provider of work force development. Bergen County residents of all ages and cultural backgrounds appreciate the College as the hub of their educational and cultural activities.

#### ***Selected History of the Institution***

On April 3, 1963, the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders passed a resolution appointing a committee of distinguished citizens charged with the responsibility of inquiring into the needs for a two-year county college in Bergen County. In October of 1965, the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders passed the necessary resolutions to establish, operate, and provide financial support for a county college in Bergen County. Dr. Sidney Silverman was named as the first president of the College and assumed the duties as president on February 1, 1967 until his retirement on June 30, 1977. The College registered its first class of day and evening students in September 1968, in interim buildings designed to accommodate more than 1,300 full-time students.

The 167-acre site of the Orchard Hills Country Club in Paramus was selected for the permanent home of Bergen Community College. Construction of the campus was begun in 1969 on the Paramus site. Phase I of construction was completed in 1973. The College has since expanded its Paramus facilities to include additional classroom and library space, a theater arts laboratory, and a student center. In 1970, the Phillip Ciarco Learning Center was founded to provide educational and counseling services for adults who have not completed a formal high school education and for adults who interested in English as a Second Language.

During the last decade, Bergen has shown tremendous growth. Among the more recent facilities additions include the Technology Education Center, a new parking deck adding over 600 spaces, West Hall - home to Bergen's Educational Broadcast Center, Media Technologies, and arts and communications instructional facilities, and finally, the opening of Bergen Community College at the Meadowlands in July 2008. In an attempt to expand its services to the southern part of Bergen County, BCC began offering credit and non-credit courses at a business complex in Lyndhurst, NJ. The College recently purchased the facility and plans are underway for renovation and expansion of the site.

### ***III. Additional Institutional Information, contd.***

#### ***Selected 2009-2010 Information for Academic and Non-Academic Divisions***

##### **Division of Arts, Humanities, and Wellness**

- Courses modified in the division during 2009-2010 included Intro to the Philosophy of Art, Modern Art, 1890-1940, Contemporary Art, and intermediate sequences in Russian and Japanese
- Curriculum changes in the division included AA in Music, AS in Music Business AA in Liberal Arts, Global Studies Option, CERT in Music Business and modifications the AA in Fine/Performing Arts, AAS in Graphic Design, and AAS in Computer Animation
- New program options in Cinema Studies (AA) and Sports Marketing (COA) were approved.
- New courses in the division introduced included Women in Cinema, American Cinema, Careers in Music, Concert Promotion and Production Electronic Music Composition, Sports Administration, and Introduction to Facilities and Events (with BSSPS division).
- The Communications department launched a course in Print Journalism Production, in which students will report, write, edit and produce the student newspaper. The Torch won six awards (three first prizes, one second and two thirds) in the New Jersey Press Foundation's 2009-2010 Better College Newspaper Contest
- The Music department, revised degree/certificate programs for music majors: A.A. in Fine and Performing Arts, A.S. in Professional Studies, Music Technology, and A.S. in Professional Studies, Music Business, and Certificates in Music Technology, Music Business, and Commercial Music Production

##### **Division of Business, Mathematics, and Social Sciences**

- The Legal Studies department introduced three new courses: Legal Ethics, Non-Profit Law and Hospitality Law, the latter of which were jointly sponsored by the Business and Hotel/Restaurant/Hospitality Departments. In addition, a Legal Nurse Certificate program was introduced in the 2009-2010 academic year.
- The Hotel/Restaurant/Hospitality department developed and introduced new curricula in all its programs, and developed and introduced two new courses: Facilities Planning, Layout, & Design, and Hospitality Law (with Legal Studies).

##### **Division of English**

- The Division of English created a new course: LIT 242 Latin American Literature approved by Faculty Senate and is in the process of attaining General Education status. This course will become part of a degree option in Latin American Studies.
- All English Departments (American Language Program, ALP-Speech, English Basic Skills, and Writing & Literature) completed program reviews, as mandated by Special Topics Program Review: Focus on Bergen's Expectations for Student Learning. The EBS Department Program Review Final Report was considered exemplary and forwarded to other Review Leaders.
- The English Division supports the High School Writing Contest and its publication *Pegasus*, Geoffrey Sadock, PhD, contest director and journal editor, as well as *Labyrinth*, the BCC Literary Magazine, James Zorn & Dorothy Altman.
- The EBS Department sponsored professional development activities: two study circles: the EBS Study Circle and the Teaching of Writing Circle (interdisciplinary participation by members of the division and others).
- Members of the Division play a major role in the Basic Skills Council, a that exists to develop and recommend to the President all policies and procedures concerning developmental education at BCC. The group has cross-campus representation with leadership provided by EBS and Dev. Math.
- The English Division led the formation of an English/Library Committee on Information Literacy in order to develop instructional strategies for enriched infusion of information literacy instruction in WRT-101 and 201 for compliance with state-wide General Education guidelines.

### ***III. Additional Institutional Information, contd.***

- The ALP and ALP SPE Department the ALP Recognition Ceremony, in which students completing their ESL requirements enabling them to enter mainstream college courses and programs are recognized for their efforts. A speech competition was held and winners spoke at the ceremonies.

#### **Division of Health Professions**

- The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program completed the accreditation self study and hosted the JCERT Accreditation Visit in April, 2010. The DMS program also received a five year reaccreditation in Abdominal, Ob/Gyn and Echocardiography. We are the only program in the state that offers these three specialties. The DMS program also received three state-of-the-art ultrasound machines and a PACS system, provides the students the ability to view their images in the lab through a computerized data system. All hospitals use this system instead of developing their images on film.
- The Medical Office Assistant program received a state-of-the-art laboratory in S-236, made possible through a grant from the Pitkin Foundation.
- The Nursing program received a state-of-the-art laboratory in S-347, made possible through a grant from the Pitkin Foundation.
- The Radiography program completed their self-study and hosted a successful JCERT Visit in May, 2010.
- The Surgical Technology department faculty and students participated in a service learning initiative related to Diabetes Awareness.
- The Veterinary Technology program received a Perkins grant for a vivarium to house mice, rats and rabbits. In addition, VT students and faculty participated in service learning initiatives with the local animal shelters.

#### **Division of Science, Mathematics, and Technology**

- New courses in the division added during 2009-2010 include two online laboratory science courses that fulfill General Education requirements (PHY 100 & PHY 113) a new Statistical Methods course (MAT 286), and a new Discrete Math course (MAT 285).
- The first funding from a \$2 million grant from the Buhler foundation was provided for instrumentation and equipment for the new science wing, as well as to start the planning for a new Aviation program.
- Dr. Judith Fitzpatrick initiated the 18 credit QA Certificate Program which issued certificates to 6 students in the first year.
- Other grants of note include the second funding year NSF ATE Grant in Quality assurance ( 3 years, \$861K), a new HIS title 5 grant (Developmental math program redesign).

#### **Library and Learning Resource Center**

- The Sidney Silverman Library achieved a number of departmental goals in 2009-2010, including moving over 50% of reference collection to circulation, review/clean-up of all records in library catalog, the addition of three new databases (Jazz, Theater, and Dance), and the inventory of print and media collections. Changes to the library facility included the addition of a Silent Study Room, partial carpeting, and shelf realignment to the Upper Floor, and a series of photo portraits titled "Faces of Diversity" installed throughout.
- Library faculty and staff members hold membership and leadership roles in a number of state and national organizations, including the American Library Association, the New Jersey Library Association, American Association of School Librarians, ACRL-NJ, and Virtual Academic Library Environment (VALE). Library staff also attended numerous professional conferences and workshops during the 2009-2010 academic year, including ALA, NJLA, REvolution, and the VALE Annual conference.

#### **Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning / Distance Learning**

- The Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) was established to manage the convergence of technology into traditional courses and the Bergen's initiative to provide a place for best practices to be shared.

### ***III. Additional Institutional Information, contd.***

Dr. Amarjit Kaur was recently named Director of the CITL. Distance Learning courses continue to grow at a 20% pace. Distance Learning sections now make up almost 10% of all sections at Bergen, and all of the courses involved with teaching online and web-enhancing face to face courses are now available as online courses as well.

#### **Student Services**

- **Transfer/Career Services:** staff presentations during 2009-2010 included “Gateway to Opportunity: Transfer from the Community College Perspective” at the AACRAO National Transfer Conference; a Transfer Information Session presented to US Based Trained Advisors from Morocco, Georgia, Brazil, Kazakhstan and Hungary; and an Employments Skills Workshop (“Planting the Seeds for Your Future, A Youth Transitional School to Work Program”) at a program for At-Risk Youth, through Bergen County.
- **Office of Specialized Services:** activities during 2009/2010 included presentations and panel discussions at the NJ Best Practices Conference, The National AHEAD and PEPnet conference, and to Bergen and Passaic County Guidance and Transition Counselors.
- **Office of the Dean of Student Services/Office of Student Customer Service:** VP Raymond Smith, Dean Denise Liguori, Dianna O’Connor, and Monica Postle presented “We want our 27 Million Dollars Back: Retention as a Revenue Source” at the Bellwether annual conference, and published the paper in the Community College Journal of Research and Practice. Hyacinthe Nkurunziza presented “Best Practices for connecting Students with Adaptive Technologies” at the NJ-AHEAD Conference in June 2010. Student services staff received appointments to committees and boards including Chi Alpha Epsilon (EOF Honor Society), Black History Month Committee, NJEA Minority Leadership and Recruitment Committee, National Black Child Development Institute, and the BCC Latino Heritage Committee.