

H. MAJOR RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. *Academic Programs*

A new AAS program was approved by the Curriculum Review Committee and the College's Board of Trustees in spring 2010 and was submitted to the Academic Issues Committee of the statewide Presidents' Council. Offering an AAS program in Business Administration in addition to an AS program allows for clearer and more distinct program goals in both programs, with the former preparing students to transfer to a four-year college or university business program and the latter preparing students for entry-level positions in business. Upon state approval, the AAS program will start in fall 2011.

2. *Customized Training*

Salem Community College's department of Business and Community Partnerships reaches out to local employers to develop customized training programs. In 2010, the College partnered with PSEG Nuclear, JE Berkowitz, ARC of Salem County, Clement Pappas, and the Salem County One-Stop Career Center. This training includes basic communication, computer skills upgrading, small business start-up, and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) training and certification.

3. *Workforce Development*

SCC continues as the host site and fiscal agent for the Salem County One-Stop Career Center. This site, located at the College's Salem Center in Salem New Jersey, houses the offices for NJ Employment Services, Unemployment Services, Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Office, and associated programs. The One-Stop Career Center provides a variety of services to the residents of Salem County including testing for admission to basic skills education classes and training, computerized basic skills training, career assessment classes, and other services for training employment seekers. College staff serves on the One-Stop Management Team with Salem County officials, Salem County Vocational-Technical School, the County Board of Social Services and the State Department of Labor.

The College is also offering continuing education courses including ServSafe™ with the food industry; LEED® certification with the sustainable building industry; and OSHA training with local businesses. In 2010, SCC launched the Energy Institute, a professional training program designed to provide adult workers with training on a full range of sustainable practices in both residential and commercial properties.

4. *Community Education and Non-Credit*

SCC provides non-credit community education courses appealing to a wide range of interests and supporting individualized personal growth in a variety of subject areas such as computer training, Personal Watercraft/Boating Safety, SAT Prep, Glass Art, and CPR Training.

5. Student Services

SCC collaborated with Salem County Vocational and Technical School (SCVTS) to hire a Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant (LDTC), housed in the SCC Center for Student Success and paid for by grant funds from the SCVTS. Since the LDTC came onboard in October 2009, SCC has made great strides in meeting the needs of students with disabilities by developing individual learning plans and providing accommodations.

Another valuable addition to the Center for Student Success team was a career advisor funded by the Perkins grant in fall 2009. The career advisor assists with all academic advising but has expertise in embedding career information in advising appointments. In this way, students are encouraged to view their educational experience in terms of their career plans for life after college. The career advisor at SCC is trained in using comprehensive career guidance software called “Bridges” that assists students in exploring personal interests, majors, and future careers. In addition, the advisor assists students with preparing and conducting a job search, including information about resume writing, interviewing, informational interviewing, and conducting an online search.

6. Institutional Research and Assessment

In 2009-2010, the College strengthened the Office of Institutional Research and Planning to build the capacity to conduct effective institutional research and assessment efforts. The College refocused and centralized institutional research and assessment efforts with IR&P as the clear locus of coordination. IR&P collaborates with all divisions of the College to improve data collection processes and align them at the institutional level. As a year one initiative of the Strategic Plan, IR&P focused on streamlining processes and procedures to improve the distribution of timely information for decision-making.