

H. Major Research and Public Service Activities

During the 2011-2012 academic year, the College offered the following types of selected research and public service activities.

Selected Research and Professional Activities

The research and professional development activities of the College involve participation in discipline-related associations, presentations of papers at regional and national conferences, evaluation of existing programs, development of new courses and programs, involvement in development workshops, and participation in grants-related activities. During 2011-2012 faculty and staff also were actively involved in evaluating and revising existing curricula and courses, and developing new programs. There were major revisions in Communications, Journalism and TV Production programs that reflected changes in the communications fields. Three options were added to the Mathematics/Science degree: Math, Chemistry and Environmental Science.

Final approval was granted by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education to allow the College to offer online degree programs, beginning with degrees in CCC's Justice Studies program of study.

Proposals for several grant-funded projects have been completed and the College continues to implement objectives related to the federal Title III grant for strengthening institutions. Among the initiatives as part of this grant are those that will increase retention and completion rates and implementation of a new computer system. The College has also been designated as an Achieving the Dream institution, one of three in New Jersey. During 2011-2012, the College received a federal GEAR-UP grant designed to prepare local high school students to continue their educations at the postsecondary level.

Professional Association Memberships

Faculty and staff are members of several different professional associations. Included below is a selected list:

- American Association of Community Colleges
- American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
- American Association for Higher Education
- Association for Institutional Research
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- College and University Personnel Association
- Consortium of Distance Education
- Council for Resource Development
- Delaware Valley Marketing Group
- EOF Professional Association of New Jersey
- FEMA's Emergency Management Higher Education Project
- Human Resources Association
- League for Innovation

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- Network of Occupational Training and Education
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and Research Council on Mathematics Learning
- National Academic Advising Association
- National Association for Developmental Education
- National Council for Marketing and Public Relations
- National Council for Research and Planning
- National Education Business Association
- New Jersey Council of County Colleges
- New Jersey Library Association
- New Jersey Presidents' Council
- NJ Board of Nursing
- NJ Health Sciences Advisory Board
- NJ Virtual Community College Consortium
- NJEDge.Net
- Phi Delta Kappa
- South Jersey Math Alliance
- South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative
- The National Association of Developmental Educators

Selected Public Service and Community Activities

Public service and community activities related to the College's mission include programs for area business and industry, K-12 programs, Fine and Performing Arts Center programs, Continuing Education, and other education-related activities open to the public.

Professional and Community Education Programs

During 2011-12 short-term career certification programs were offered in healthcare fields and the alternate route New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey was offered to accelerate the process of teacher certification. Community education programs as well as customized training programs for business and industry continue to be offered by this College department.

K-12 Programs

More than 16,000 high school students have enrolled in the School Counts! program since it began in 2001. The School Counts! Program has issued approximately 11,000 certificates to students in grades 9-12; more than 600 freshmen and 350 sophomores have utilized the School Counts! scholarships; and 201 School Counts! students have graduated from CCC.

College and high school faculty met to align curricula in language arts and mathematics as part of a continuing effort to increase the number of high school graduates who are college-ready.

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Fine and Performing Arts Programs

Performing arts programs included over 200 different events attended by more than 19,000:

- Through a major grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Guaracini Center was able to present “Works in Dance III.” This bi-annual performance featured the works of some of New Jersey’s newest and most innovative choreographers.
- The FamilyTime productions were popular, as were their school-day performances
- Cumberland County College Theater Arts was active with “The Odd Couple” in the fall, which was an entry into the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival
- The season ended with a production of “Fiddler on the Roof” which featured a cast of 50 students, faculty, community members and children
- The David Sanchez Group played Latin and Afro-Cuban influenced jazz, and Grammy winner Kurt Elling celebrated the 50th anniversary of Frank Sinatra’s “Live in Paris”
- Sonia Nazario, author of *Enrique’s Journey*, the College’s “One Book, One College” selection, gave a presentation at the College
- Several concerts by the Bay Atlantic Symphony were offered during 2011-12 at the Frank Guaracini, Jr. Fine and Performing Arts Center

The Humanities Division offered the annual Poets on Campus Day, produced the College literary magazine *L’Esprit*, and the student newspaper, *The Voice*.

Other Community Programs and Events

During 2011-2012 examples of selected activities included:

- Southern New Jersey ESL Migrant Worker Program
- The Annual Seeking Out Alternative Roads (SOAR) Conference
- Cumberland County Science Fair
- Unity Week activities
- Hispanic Leadership Conference
- Phi Theta Kappa programs
- Cinco de Mayo celebration and performances

The College’s George Luciano, Sr. Conference Center was the site for events by business, industry and public groups for conferences, meetings, receptions, dinners, lunches, breakfasts, conferences, job/career fairs, health/wellness fairs, performances, presentations, displays, auctions and awards ceremonies in the Conference Center and Theater.

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In January, approximately 172 Cumberland County College students, faculty and staff members honored the work of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by serving the community as volunteers at various service organizations throughout the county.

The service sites included: Bethel AME Development Corp., Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club, Bridgeton Public Library, Cumberland County SPCA, Cohanzick Zoo, County of Cumberland, Genesis Eldercare, Maurice House, Mennies Elementary School, R.D. Wood School, Shirley Eves Center, Spirit and Youth Ministries, WheatonArts, and Vineland YMCA.