

2017-2018 COMMUNITY REPORT

Year Two Report: Toward a Splendid College Strategic Plan 2016-2026

5 goals • 10 priorities • 40 targets



1. At NVCC, students achieve their goals.
2. NVCC faculty and staff make a difference—at the College, in the community, in their fields of study, and in the lives of students.
3. NVCC programs meet and beat academic and industry standards.
4. NVCC is an engine of change within Waterbury, Danbury, and the broader community.
5. NVCC is an effective, performance-based institution.

In the past decade, 10,000 students received degrees or certificate awards at NVCC.



Navigating True North in the Face of Uncertainty



As academic year 2017-2018 ends, and having recently concluded a beautiful cycle of celebrations for more than fifty years of dedication and commitment to change lives and communities for the better, we reflect on the powerful, transformative work undertaken in academic year 2017-2018 to support a strong present and build a powerful future for our beloved NVCC, our students and the communities we serve.

It has been a remarkable year both in present achievements and in our ability to engage our communities within and outside the confines of our splendid campuses, in planning, implementing, and continued collaboration. As a result, we have experienced powerful outcomes at both the Waterbury and the Danbury Campuses. We continue to make a significant difference in the lives of our students.

Student enrollment continues to grow in our larger and beautiful facilities at our Danbury Campus. Completions and job placement for students in our manufacturing programs gave us more to celebrate. Once again, we reached 100% job placements for these graduates. We continued with the success of our flagship nursing and allied health programs, recognized for their outstanding pass rates in licensure and credential exams. These programs are at the top levels of academic achievement and student outcomes. The resurgence in the Performing Arts, supported by a spirit of collaboration and collegiality, included many powerful musical, dance and theatrical performances, not to mention the many celebrations of the International Center for the Arts.

Our work, our commitment to mission and what the College represents for so many are tied to the most beautiful and fundamental democratic principles. In that regard, every decision we made was predicated on whether an action would support our students, contribute to the communities we serve, or encourage advancement of civic justice. We are proud to affirm that our work continues to honor and support a vision of a just and inclusive society. It is in that spirit that I write our annual report to the campus and our multiple stakeholders.

Academic Year 2017-2018 has been challenging for the College, but the rewards far outweigh the challenges of managing difficult budgets. Together we have moved ahead in so many wonderful directions. After nine years of balancing our budgets and building our reserves, the draconian cuts imposed on community colleges this year will require that we use some of our reserves to finish the year with a balanced budget. I am grateful to the College for its financial probity and sense of responsibility that allowed us to grow reserves that will help us weather this year's cut. We have called on legislators to review the budget, to conduct a deep analysis of budgeting for all of public higher education, and to ensure equity and fairness in the allocation of budgets for community colleges.

This is my tenth year as president of our Community College, and I am proud to report that it has been a year of significant achievements. Naugatuck Valley Community College is living its mission. Don't just take my word for it, read what the experts have told us or recognized in us.

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D., President
Naugatuck Valley Community College
Waterbury-Danbury Campuses

YEAR THREE: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. Completion, Job Placement, and Transfer
2. Equity in Achievement
3. Leadership and Service
4. Research
5. Cutting-edge Curriculum
6. Innovation and Entrepreneurship
7. Pre-collegiate Pathways
8. Workforce Pathways
9. Institutionalizing Data and Assessment Systems
10. Strategic Institutional Growth and Support



NAVIGATING TRUE NORTH

ENDORSED BY EXPERTS

Don't just take our word, listen to the experts...

NVCC is ranked in Top 25 by USDOE. A recent report published by the United States Department of Education (USDOE) ranked NVCC as one of the top 25 colleges in the nation to advance opportunities for low-income students.

NVCC's three US DOE Upward Bound grant applications have been selected for funding. These grants will support increased collaboration between NVCC and the three Waterbury High Schools: Crosby, Kennedy and Wilby. Each grant is a five-year grant award in the amount of \$257,500 per year/per school.

NVCC's US DOE Upward Bound Math/Science (UBMS) grant application to support students from Crosby High School has been selected for funding. The grant is a five-year grant award in the amount of \$263,938 per year. Titled "Crosby High School Project S³, STEM Students Succeed," it will provide Bridge-to-College programs and services for 60 students from low-income families. These programs supplement the math/science curriculum and ensure college readiness.

NVCC has been designated an Eligible Institution by the U.S. Department of Education under Titles III and V of the Higher Education Act of 1965. This distinction allows the College to pursue grants under the Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) program to expand educational offerings for, and improve the opportunities for Hispanic students earning degrees through enhanced academic offerings.

NEASC - In February 2018, our accreditors, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), commended NVCC for a comprehensive, well-written interim report that highlighted NVCC's achievements over the past five years, including the growth of foundation assets, the acquisition of grants, progress in assessment, programmatic accreditation, and program reviews.

Aspen Prize Top 150 - In September of 2017, the Aspen Institute named NVCC as one of the top 150 community colleges in the country, a signature recognition of high achievement and performance among 1,200 community colleges nationwide.



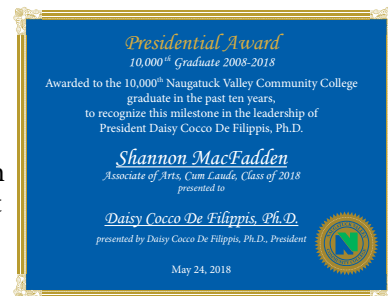
Social Mobility, Research and Service - In November of 2017, *Washington Monthly's* "For Adult Learners--Among Two-Year Colleges," ranked NVCC #38 nationwide for our contributions to social mobility, research and service.

2018 Excellence in Libraries Award - The Association of College and Research Libraries named our Max R. Traurig Library as its 2018 Excellence in Libraries Award winner in the community college category.

Academic Achievement

Degrees and Certificates - NVCC became the first community college in Connecticut to award a total of more than 1,000 associate degrees and certificates in 2012. This achievement was repeated for the seventh year in a row in 2018 when the College conferred 1,020 awards. Since Academic Year 2007-2008, the College has seen a 112% increase in the total number of awards, a 122% increase in the number of male graduates and a 464% increase in Hispanic student graduates.

This year a Presidential Award was given to Shannon MacFadden, the 10,000th NVCC graduate in the past ten years, to recognize this milestone in the leadership of President Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.



Accreditations - The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) Board of Commissioners granted continuing accreditation to the NVCC Nursing Program until their next visit in 2025. Nursing Graduates Class of 2017 achieved a 96% pass rate on the State Board of Nursing Licensure Exam.

The Respiratory Care Class of 2017 achieved a 100% pass rate on the CRT credentialing exam in the state of Connecticut and the program received a 2018 Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).



NVCC's Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program graduated its 20th class, the largest graduating class in the history of the program with 28 students. The class of 2017 achieved a 100% pass rate on the national licensure exam.

NVCC Radiologic Technology graduates achieved a 100% first-time pass rate on the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists for its 22nd year.

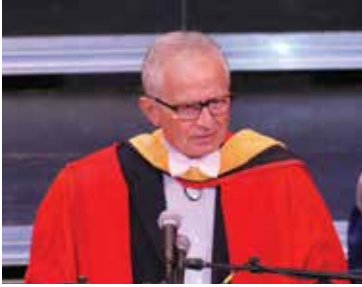
The NVCC Child Development Center laboratory school was reaccredited with scores of over 100 in five categories and 100% scores in all others categories. The laboratory school was also chosen to participate in the state's Office of Early Childhood Assessment Pilot, providing input to new assessment standards for rollout in Fall 2018.



EXPERIENCED BY STUDENTS

Jobs for Students

Over 30 students in AY17-18 have participated in the Work Study Pilot, which provides funds to students who demonstrate need to work on campus. Using Federal Work Study Program, State Work Study Pilot, Student Jobs on Campus Initiative and Student Assistant funds, the College employs more than 200 students throughout the fiscal year, making it possible for students to earn funds to help them continue their academic studies and achieve their goals.



NVCC received the first installment of a generous donation from Nicholas Donofrio, former chairman of the Connecticut Board of Regents, to create the Donofrio NVCC Student Jobs on Campus Project.

This project will have a significant impact on

the lives of underrepresented minority students seeking a degree at NVCC in hopes of attending one of the four CSU universities or Charter Oak State College.

In collaboration with the Hispanic Federation, Connecticut and the CREAR Futuros initiative, the Center for Job Placement and College Opportunities (CJPCO) helped facilitate four workshops for students that focused on building a portfolio, creating an appropriate and effective social media presence, resume writing and interviewing skills.

Supporting Our Students

Autism Awareness - In Spring 2018, an Autism Awareness live online presentation was held to build awareness around autism and share best practices to support those seeking academic adjustments. The presentation was recorded and will be shared for future viewing.

First Year Experience - The ACE piloted nine “un-workshops” with First Year Experience (FYE) and Communications classes. Sixty students participated. Through an anonymous survey, 96% of participating students stated they learned something new. The program will expand in fall 2018 with additional academic skills.

Financial Aid - During award year 2017-2018 the College awarded \$2,146,678 in NVCC grant funds; \$1,305,966 in Roberta Willis Scholarship funds and \$9,186,963 in Pell funds, for a total of \$12,639,607 in aid to our students.



Food Pantry - The NVCC Student Food Pantry opened its doors in February and in the first six weeks saw over 700 student visits for grab & go food.

GEAR UP - NVCC

continues its powerful collaboration with the City of Waterbury in the sixth year of the GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) grant; this year, the first cohort of seniors will graduate.



The GEAR UP STEM Day was held on October 27, and about 80 GEAR UP students experienced two different STEM courses and had the chance to discuss NVCC with current STEM students and a STEM alumnus. The STEM Division collaborated with the Girl Scouts of America to host a STEMagination event on February 9, which was attended by 52 girls and 35 adults from our surrounding towns. NVCC's annual Women in Science Seminar was held on April 27, and featured multiple female leaders from a variety of STEM careers.

Legislative Action -

NVCC students traveled to Hartford in March to testify during the budget hearings at the Legislative Office Building. Our students continue to take a leading role as they share their voices in support of funding for our institution and public higher education in Connecticut.



Manufacturing Milestones

Four of the NVCC Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center (AMTC) staff members were the first in the U.S. to complete the Siemens Lifelong Educational Advantage Program (LEAP) Level I and Level II CNC Milling Certificates and are now certified to train students to prepare for LEAP Level I and Level II CNC Milling Certificates.

NVCC's AMTC, along with industry partners, designed and implemented a spring manufacturing technology training program, currently being offered in the evening at the Bristol Technical Education Center.



A new Danbury industry partner, Praxair Corporation, has recently awarded NVCC's AMTC with a donation of \$150,000 in support of the program.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

Community Engagement

Early College Opportunity - Kennedy High School ECO (Early College Opportunity) initiative kicked off in February with information sessions for prospective students and their families. The high school is evaluating applications and will select 25 students to begin this fall as Cohort 1.

Evening Bus Service - Evening bus service continues to enable students and area citizens to attend class and travel to work. Since it began, bus ridership is approaching 1.5 million riders.



Leadership Breakfast -

The Naugatuck Valley Community College Foundation inaugurated its Leadership Breakfast fundraiser to support the educational needs of NVCC students, including scholarships, emergency

services, and the NVCC Student Food Pantry. The program featured a keynote address by George Bodenheimer, Current Acting Chair and Former President and Executive Chairman of ESPN, and author of *Every Town is a Sports Town: Business Leadership at ESPN, from the Mailroom to the Boardroom*.

Grants - NVCC was awarded a grant from the Connecticut Community Foundation to support an NVCC Alumni Speakers Series. NVCC also was awarded grants from the Connecticut Community Foundation and ION Bank for the opening of the NVCC Student Food Pantry and the purchase of required equipment. The Pantry was also awarded \$500 at the Thirteenth Annual Dr. Lawrence J. Shea Memorial Awards Banquet hosted by The Exchange Club of Waterbury.

For the ninth year in a row, the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen remains open on Sundays and holidays. This is an effort supported by many NVCC clubs and initiated by the Hispanic Student Union, to assist in the preparation of and to serve meals to soup kitchen guests, with the financial support of Webster Bank.

Hispanic Student Union - NVCC's Hispanic Student Union and students from the ESL Program hosted bilingual children and parents on April 27 from the Bucks Hill School in Waterbury. They used the Starbase Program on campus to provide support for science programming.

Opioid Crisis -

Dr. Sandra Valente and Dr. Kathy Murphy organized and coordinated a conference on The Opioid Crisis: A Call to Action. Faculty and students attended the event, and 12 community organizations had tables for resources.

Mayor Neil M. O'Leary, Dr. Peter Jacoby, and Police Chief Vernon Riddick spoke about issues in Waterbury. Narcan training was offered at the event. In addition, Dr. Valente received \$10,000 in funding from the CHCI Campus Opioid Education and Awareness Program to further educate members of the college community about opioid abuse.



Racial Dialogue and Communal Transformation

President De Filippis established the NVCC Center for Racial Dialogue and Communal Transformation in August 2017. The Center, under the leadership of Professor Joseph Faryniarz, Dean Antonio Santiago and Professor Kathy Taylor, organized a powerful speaker series, which included topics such as "Religious Sensitivity and Approaches Toward Peace" and a dialogue on immigration policies and their impact on families and communities.



On November 1, the Stonewall Speakers presented an event held at NVCC sponsored by the Safe Space Student Club in collaboration with One Book, One College. LGBT speakers shared their stories in a powerful collaboration reflecting the theme of this year's One Book selection, *Saving Alex*.

NVCC's Social Justice Series, led by Professors Nikki McGary and Kathy Taylor, launched in the fall of 2017, and has held multiple outstanding events this academic year.

Campus Conversations - In conjunction with the Women's Center of Greater Danbury, the NVCC Student Government Association offered a series of Campus Conversations covering the following topics: #MeToo Movement, Navigating Healthy Relationships, Bystander Intervention, and "Spring into Health."



ADVANCING OUR CAMPUSES

NVCC Celebrates 50 Years!



On October 12-14, NVCC held its 50th Anniversary Community Celebration and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for the Founders Hall Center for Health Sciences. This three-day event began with a faculty art exhibit and Confluencia featuring NVCC faculty and staff and closed with a Community Festival on October 14. Demolition of the

Founders Hall Annex was completed, and the dedication of the Faryniarz Quadrangle on the former Annex site was held October 13 in conjunction with the Founders Hall ribbon-cutting events.

“*Celebrating Naugatuck Valley Community College: More Than 50 Years of Dedication*” was unveiled at the October 12 Confluencia. This book is a collaborative collection of essays by current and former NVCC administrators, faculty, staff, students and community members, and shows the beauty and good work of the College over the past 50 years.

Campus Expansion



Center for Health Sciences -

The Founders Hall Center for Health Sciences opened on January 17, 2017 as the spring semester began. The Founders Hall Capital Campaign led by campaign champion Dr. Peter Jacoby, President De Filippis, Provost Troup and Dean Kostrzewa exceeded its goal of \$1M. The donor thank-you event was held on October 13, with more than 100 donors in attendance.



Campus and Technology -

Several important infrastructure projects to update and modernize our facilities were completed or are currently underway, including power plant equipment overhaul, Kinney Hall roofing, fire alarm system upgrade, ventilation system repair in Danbury, and the installation of 21st century technology in the main office of Public Safety.

The IT Department installed new printers campus-wide equipped with PaperCut software. This software is intended to cut waste, save money, and track use, which will be used to inform future decision-making. IT also rolled out the protective enclave to maintain security of personal and confidential information. NVCC donated 406 “aging” computers to several non-profit groups within our service region.

Danbury Campus

DECO (Danbury Early College Opportunity), now in its third year, currently has 204 students participating across three cohorts with a fourth cohort planned for Fall 2018, which will add an additional 60 students to the program.



In Spring 2018 all DECO Cohort 1 & 2 (juniors and sophomores) met with NVCC advisors to review their progress and plan the next steps towards completion of their academic goals at NVCC and beyond. Over 100 students, along with some family members, participated in a one-on-one advising session.

The NVCC Danbury Campus successfully piloted cyber-tutoring in conjunction with the Academic Center for Excellence in Waterbury. Cyber-tutoring was provided for BIO 115 and CSC 101.

High schools students from Danbury, New Milford, Henry Abbott Tech and Bethel participated in the College Student for a Day program at the Danbury Campus. Students were given an opportunity to select available courses to experience being a college student for the day.

The NVCC Danbury Campus provided support to the United Way of Greater Danbury in securing the Working Cities grant for \$450,000 over the next five years, which will provide funding to build trust and racial equity within the community, minimizing language barriers and providing a pathway towards educating individuals in obtaining licensing to offer affordable child care.

Scholars and Awards

NVCC’s fourth application for a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence was approved for funding for Academic Year 2018-2019. The College will welcome Aguibou Bougobali Sanou, from Burkina Faso, West Africa. He is an international performer, specializing in African dance. He will teach dance classes at the College, collaborate with partners—the Waterbury Arts Magnet School and Capital Community College in Hartford—and hold dance-related community activities as part of the College’s International Center for the Arts.

Under the direction of faculty advisor, Steve Parlato, Professor of English, *The Tamarack*, NVCC’s student newspaper was honored with six awards for Excellence in Journalism in the Collegiate Division of the Connecticut Society of Professional Journalists 2018 Contest.

