

The V. James Renda Faculty Resource Center For Academic Excellence

"Committed to quality programs to enhance teaching and learning at N.C.C.C."

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



FRCAE HOLIDAY GATHERING

Thank you to all that donated, bid or coordinated the FRCAE Holiday Gathering that was held on Friday,

December 6th! Your generosity helped to raise \$1710 that was gifted to two students and two members of the college community! Plans are underway to make the 2020 Holiday Gathering an even bigger success with a basket raffle event! If you would like to serve on the Holiday Gathering Committee or are interested in being placed on the list as a "Basket Captain", contact Maureen Winters to register!

SUNY UNDERGRAD RESEARCH CONFERENCE (SURC)

The **SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC)** is a multidisciplinary spring semester event hosted each year by different SUNY institutions. It brings together undergraduate student researchers and faculty mentors from across the SUNY system for activities, including sessions devoted to student presentations—oral, performance, artistic displays, and posters presentations—in **ALL** academic disciplines.

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and SUNY Old Westbury will co-host SURC 2020. By bringing together students and faculty from across the state, SURC helps realize the synergistic power of the SUNY system.

- Saturday, 4 April 2020 - SURC 2020 Upstate - SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- Friday, 24 April 2020 - SURC 2020 Downstate - SUNY Old Westbury

For information on how to submit a proposal or to register please go to [SURC2020](#). If you have any questions please [contact](#) the SURC team for more information.

Michaela Rehm

SUNY Center for Professional Development

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THE 2020 NCCC STUDENT SHOWCASE



Being held on April 2nd, 2020 is on the horizon and we are making a call to

faculty to encourage student participation.

Experience shows that the best way to get students involved is through faculty recruitment. Many students do not recognize their own abilities or the skills accrued by presenting to the public.

What do you get for of all this effort? Besides the personal fulfillment of working closely with a great student, consider the benefits to your program. The Showcase is held in conjunction with Spring Open House. Referring potential freshmen to a specific Showcase project extends campus contact and interest. The longer they stay on campus engaged in positive experiences, the more likely they are to form an encouraging image of your program, and the more likely they are to consider NCCC as a viable college option. By mentoring a student for Student Showcase. Want to mentor but need more information? Contact Matt Clarcq at mclarcq@niagaracc.suny.edu or call 614-6753 To access an electronic version of the Student Interest Card follow this link

FRCAE Contact

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FACULTY CORNER – BEST PRACTICES - OER

Dave Milazzo has been teaching at NCCC in Mathematics for 16 years. He holds a MS in Math Ed and a BS is in Pure Mathematics. He

went back and earned a Post-Baccalaureate in Secondary Education – Mathematics and holds permanent NYS Certification in Mathematics. He is a member of the NYS Mathematics Content Advisory Panel (only 25 people in all across the state – 5 from higher ed positions – you do not apply – they seek you out) He believes the biggest challenge to students is that their minds and priorities tend not to be solely focused on their education, “they are so busy with working multiple jobs in order to pay for their education, that they lose focus and time to spend on their education. It is like a double-edged sword. If we can ease the financial burden at all, this would be a huge help for so many to not have to sacrifice studying time to work to pay for college.”

Dave has been using OER’s for a year and a half. In doing so, students have saved an approximate \$15,000 that would have been paid to textbook companies! The students are always initially shocked when Dave tells them that the program being used in class is FREE.

“They are also shocked when they know they have access to a textbook that is also free. Their eyes light up and you can almost see the stress going away as they find out they don’t have to spend even more money that they may not have. Also, the idea that they can start assignments from day 1 is wonderful. Many of our students come into a new semester with a new look on life – a new start. They leave the first class excited and want to get going on the assignments. What I’ve noticed in previous semesters was that students would start out positive, then quickly sadden up and become negative because they couldn’t afford a book or an access code and they saw themselves falling

behind. This is immediately changed with OER’s. They can begin at full speed from day 1!”

There are so many resources available. Dave happened to start with Lumen Learning (lumenlearning.com). He ended up getting access to Lumen Learning and uses their Online Homework Manager (OHM) for assignments, videos, textbook access, etc.. Their site is ohm.lumenlearning.com. Dave has also used Openstax.org. Other resources include SUNYOER textbooks.opensuny.org and screencast-o-matic.

“Don’t be afraid to use other people’s work as a jumping off point. Chances are, they have been in your shoes before and have had the same questions. Don’t reinvent the wheel – and with that said, don’t be afraid to build your own material either. It doesn’t have to be hard, and it isn’t. For my CIS courses, I created my own materials and made my own videos using screencast-o-matic and have then posted videos to my YouTube channel. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to ask. I’m more than excited to share the positive experiences and help where I can.”

FRCAE FEBRUARY 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Bring Your own lunch Series:

Zoom! How to run a meeting remotely!

Feb. 12th noon-12:30 Feb. 18th 12:30-1:00

Brown Bag Series – Dates TBD (Continuation of the Diversity and Inclusion Series)

Coordinator's Council Meeting--Strategic Plan

Feb 19th 2:00 – 3:00 Feb 27th 12:30 – 1:30

*Keynote save the date: March 4th 300-4:00

Matt Clarcq Topic: History of Aerospace



NCCC STRATEGIC PLAN

The NCCC Strategic Plan draft can be found in the FYI page. Stay tuned for opportunities to serve on committees that are being formed over the next month to begin the implementation phase!