

# The V. James Renda Faculty Resource Center For Academic Excellence

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

## OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

### News from the Faculty Resource Center - FRCAE

#### Recent Faculty Published Materials



**Dr. Suman Baral, Division of Health  
Science and Mathematics, NCCC**

August 7, 2020

**Investigation of Quark Distributions in  
a Family of Pentaquarks using the  
Thomas-Fermi Quark Model**

Using the Thomas-Fermi quark model, a collective, spherically symmetric density of states is created to represent a gas of interacting fermions with various degeneracies at zero temperature. Over a family of multi-pentaquarks, color interaction probabilities are obtained after averaging over all the possible configurations. It is found that three different Thomas-Fermi functions are necessary for light, charm, and anti-charm quarks. These are assumed to be linearly related by proportionality constants resulting in consistency conditions. We analyze these conditions and find that they lead to an interesting pattern of spherical quark distributions.

#### The Reading Matters Group Book Discussion

**Hosted by Suzanne Buffamanti, Humanities & Social  
Sciences**

With the distancing necessary, a ZOOM Meeting discussion was prepared by FRCAE on September 25, for both faculty and retirees. Those attending were able to join via a Zoom virtual gathering link. Michael Ruhlman's *Grocery: The Buying and Selling of Food in America* (2018) and Mary Stewart's *My Brother Michael* (1959) were the books chosen.

Suzanne announced the next book for discussion for the January 2021 Professional Development session will be **Isabel Wilkerson's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents***. Look for the date and time in the PD Days Schedule.

### The Academic Center for Excellence - ACE

#### Mission/Vision of Center

The **mission** of the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) at SUNY Niagara County Community College is to provide students with learning support services that serve as a

foundation for academic success, retention, and completion of educational goals.

- Collaborate and partner with faculty, advisors, and administrators to coordinate a campus-wide network of academic support.
- Foster a safe and collaborative student-centered environment through shared learning experiences.
- Implement diverse types of course-related academic support, such as student tutoring, academic coaching, and collaborative study groups.
- Provide individuals and group-based workshops for ways to implement successful study skills and strategies.

The **vision** of ACE is to provide NCCC students with the strategies and skills needed to assist them in becoming independent learners who rely upon their strengths and abilities.

#### ACE Offers Blackboard Learn Support: Have YOUR Students Sign-Up Today!

The Academic Center for Excellence now offers **one-on-one Blackboard Learn support services**. We can meet with you in-person or on ZOOM to review things like:

- How to navigate through your courses
- How to submit an assignment
- How to participate (& respond) in a group discussion
- How to get Office 360 (for FREE) to submit assignments

Have your students make an appointment today by going to the link below and clicking on the link in the "**Blackboard Learn Support**"

[www.niagaracc.suny.edu/ACE/AcademicSupportAvailability](http://www.niagaracc.suny.edu/ACE/AcademicSupportAvailability)

#### Online Learning

**N2OL Course – NCCC Course Development and  
Instructions Design Certification**

**Registration is required**

<https://sunycpd.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/facdevcon20/facdev20>

**Starting in October**

*Facilitated by Lisa Dubuc & Donna Simiele*

**Instructional Method:** Blended (weekly live Zoom sessions and online activities through the N2OL course) Zoom sessions will be recorded in case you miss them.

Begins the week of October 12 – November 23 (detailed schedule coming soon). To view full description...

This course is for both full-time and part-time faculty. This facilitated training is for anyone who is...

- thinking about teaching online,
- new to teaching online,
- needs a refresher in teaching online, or
- anyone who is teaching hybrid or blended courses.

Each week we will cover best practices and instructional design tips to help you create a course that is engaging for students, meets quality standards, compliant with Middle States requirements, and fun to teach!

You will receive a certificate for completion from the Online Learning Department.

I hope you will take this opportunity to enhance and improve upon your online, hybrid, and blended instruction. We look forward to being your guides!

\*Time expectations – approximately 2-4 hours per week

## **NCCC's Student Food Pantry**



### **Eat Healthy/Food Pantry**

As of March 2019, Student Life and the NCCC Food Pantry partnered with Eat Smart NY to gain healthier donations of food for our food pantry. This initiative

was created by Eat Smart NY and it is called *Nourish Your Neighbor*.

Nourish Your Neighbor (NYN) is a healthy food drive initiative sponsored by Eat Smart NY, Cornell Cooperative Extension. The goal is to provide education about healthy food options and encourage their donation to the on-campus food pantry. This campaign went live campus wide in early May 2019. In the short time that we have implemented NYN, we have received over 100 healthy food donations.

This pantry is a non-perishable campus pantry only. Many common canned foods fall into this category, for example—soups, stews, tuna, vegetables, fruits, pasta sauce, and juices. Others include boxed foods, for example—pasta, hot/cold cereals, powdered milk, crackers, granola bars, and rice. Glass or plastic containers safely hold foods such as peanut butter, jelly, baby food, sports drinks, pancake syrup, and seasonings. We also offer toiletry items such as shampoo, conditioner, feminine products, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc. The campus pantry is a completely anonymous program, where we only request Student ID numbers. If you are interested in utilizing the campus pantry, you simply fill out a [Food Pantry Intake Form](#). These intake forms are available at the Campus Pantry in G-245 or in Student Life

in G-243. Once this has been completed you may choose up to (5) items a week. The Campus Pantry is open Monday – Friday from 8am – 4pm and located in G-245. Feel free to stop by at any time.

If you have any questions please contact Molly Cole at [mcole@niagaracc.suny.edu](mailto:mcole@niagaracc.suny.edu) or 716-614-6263. You can also stop by our office G-243 from 8am – 4pm.

## **June 2020 NCCC Student Emergency Relief Fund**



Joining other SUNY campuses across New York State, Niagara County Community College has established a Student Emergency Relief Fund in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis. This fund is designated to support the highest, short-term financial needs to students currently enrolled at NCCC who are now facing extenuating circumstances related to housing, food, and other vital resources.

Your gift will assist students and provide immediate relief for expenses related to their necessities such as food, medicine, toiletries, and more. Now more than ever, our students are counting on us. You can make an immediate impact today by donating to the Student Emergency Relief Fund.

### **SUNY Gift Match**

Thank you to the SUNY Impact Foundation for the incredible opportunity to double our donations and our donors' impact to the NCCC Student Emergency Relief Fund! All gifts made to the Relief Fund from April 15 – June 30, 2020 were matched dollar for dollar helping us raise \$26,580 in support of our students who are struggling with financial hardships due to the Coronavirus crisis.

The NCCC Foundation is still accepting donations to the Relief Fund. As the virus continues, our students still need our help. Every dollar donated does make a difference. Thank you in advance for your generosity and continued support of NCCC as we work together to ensure the safety and well-being of our Thunderwolves!

Donations can be made online using the button below or checks can be made payable to the NCCC Foundation, 3111 Saunders Settlement Rd, Sanborn, NY 14132. If you have any questions, please email Deb Brewer at [found@niagaracc.suny.edu](mailto:found@niagaracc.suny.edu) or call her at 716-438-6388.

**Watch the NCCC System Messages and NCCC Events Calendar for upcoming workshops**

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