

FRCAE FEATURES

V. JAMES RENDA FACULTY RESOURCE CENTER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
February 2022

CAROL JAMIESON AWARD

Congratulations to our award recipients, Dr. Matthew Clarcq and Carolyn Stanko!



The NCCC Student Showcase is looking for student presenters! Please reach out to your students and encourage them.

Students can apply here: <https://form.jotform.com/72554079756973>

Data Bytes Presented by Dr. Fabio Escobar

Wednesday, February 16 at 12:00pm

Wednesday, March 2 at 12:00pm

This semester-long series is a short-form conversation about key college data points. Our objective is to use data to speak about NCCC's mission and its contribution to the Niagara County community. There are two basic objectives: (1) to increase awareness about college institutional data, as well as new data tools, to the college community; (2) to engage in a reflective conversation about who and what we are, our mission, and how we are living that mission. Join us as we explore NCCC through data! Attend in-person in FRCAE, D-104 or through zoom.

<https://zoom.us/j/98657470774>

Meeting ID: 986 5747 0774

Passcode: 181985

MENTORING ACADEMY

Calling all new faculty! FRCAE is offering a Mentoring Academy once a month for everyone to get to know each other, share best teaching practices, and answer any questions you have about anything NCCC-related. Come join us as we explore how to become better teachers and colleagues. We'll be meeting every fourth Friday during the semester from 1:00 to 2:00 pm (2/25, 3/25, and 4/22) in FRCAE, D104

- First meeting, 2/25: Welcome, icebreakers, and round table discussion of what works in classroom
- March meeting, 3/25: Sharing and learning about best teaching practices and advisement tips and tricks
- April meeting, 4/22: Fall advisement and semester reflection of student engagement

For the February meeting, please bring an example of a first day activity that you do in your classroom to share with everyone.

<https://zoom.us/j/94786308106>

Meeting ID: 947 8630 8106

Passcode: 442187

CCI DAY: CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Please join us on March 1 at noon in E-142 to hear Empire State College Director of Prior Learning, Tom McElroy, speak about credit for prior learning. Attract more adults to your program by recognizing learning outside of the college coursework.



CATCHING UP: An interview with Professor Emerita Ann Catalano by Dr. Kathy Gerbasi

When did you retire? May 2011

What courses did you teach? I taught in the Communications Media Arts program from 1974 – 2002 (Mass Media, Broadcasting, Speech Communication). I developed, coordinated, and taught in the Digital Media program from 2002 – 2011 (Digital Media, Web Design, Interactive Multimedia).

What do you like best about being retired? The opportunity to put my time and energy to activities that I want. Not being tied to a specific schedule unless I choose to. The time to spend with my family and to travel (pre-COVID.)

Is there anything you dislike about being retired? Not a thing.

How do you spend your time? I've been studying Italian and French. Before COVID, I took advantage of the Senior program at UB to take courses. I work on my genealogy. I help transcribe records from Italian to English for a genealogy group. I babysit for my grandchildren a few days a week. My gardens keep me very busy spring through fall.

I did quite a bit of traveling pre-COVID. Since retirement, I have traveled to Italy/Sicily 3 times, traveled to Florida 5 or 6 times, and did a Viking Cruise on the Rhine. More recently, I have begun camping again--this past summer I visited Ohiopyle State Park in Pennsylvania and toured multiple Frank Lloyd Wright homes.

Do you miss anything about working? I miss lunch with my colleagues and the general feeling of accomplishment you get from teaching and being part of a professional community of similar minded people.

What is the most fun thing you have done since retiring? There are two things that come to mind: 1) being able to spend time with my grandchildren and 2) travel.

In what ways, if any, has COVID-19 impacted your retirement? COVID actually increased the amount of time I spent with my grandchildren because they could not go to daycare. That was not in my plans but I am glad it happened. And obviously the ability to travel has been impacted. I had a trip planned to go to France and Italy in fall 2020, but that had to be canceled.

What are your future goals? To stay alive, so I can travel again.

Is there anything else you would like to share? I find that I am just as busy in retirement as I was when I worked. I always have something to do and truly enjoy retirement life.