MCCC Mission Statement

Mercer County Community College is a comprehensive, publicly supported two-year institution focused on learning and student success. The college welcomes students of all ages from a wide variety of backgrounds, abilities, interests, levels of education, and economic circumstances to a challenging and supportive environment dedicated to meeting the educational needs of 21st century global citizens and lifelong learners. Mercer responds to a broad array of community needs, offering programs and services for employers, continuing education and training for the workforce, enrichment for youth, and cultural opportunities for people in the region.
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2021-2022

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Serving proudly as Mercer County Community College’s Acting President in the final months of fiscal year 2021-2022, I am pleased to present the college’s annual report, “Remarkable Resilience.”

Upon review of the year’s accomplishments and financials, I am in awe of how far the College has come in such a short time following the Covid pandemic.

I have witnessed a remarkable transformation from a quiet campus back to a vibrant post-Covid college community in West Windsor and Trenton — all with credit to the dedication and efforts put forth by our faculty, staff, and supporters.

While Mercer’s online learning resources are still in place and offer a valuable complement to in-person learning, campus classrooms and labs are filling up. Students and other community members are again taking full advantage of all that Mercer County Community College has to offer.

Most recently, the college recognized roughly 1,650 students for a combined 2020-2021 graduating class and nearly 800 as the class of 2022. In light of their achievements particularly in this Covid era, all exemplify what it means to be “Mercer strong.”

Campus improvements reinforce this sense of strength and resiliency. A newly completed OneStop Center benefits students with comprehensive, streamlined services, from course registration to career counseling to veterans support. The curtain has risen on Kelsey Theatre’s venue upgrades and welcomed return to a full new season of performances. Newly installed livestreaming technology now remotely delivers, in real time, athletics and other college activities to MCCC fans near and far.

Observing the renewed engagement of students and community visitors proves to me just how vital a role Mercer County Community College plays in serving the region and accommodating the workforce needs of the 21st century. Of course, we do not fulfill this mission alone, but as a cohesive community.

So, on behalf of MCCC, I recognize and express appreciation to all who continue to contribute and commit to Mercer’s success — county officials, our Board of Trustees, the many donors who have supported the Foundation Board’s fundraising campaigns for financially challenged students, and MCCC’s extraordinary faculty, staff, and beautifully diverse student body.

Assured of our resilience, I look forward, with confidence, to Mercer remaining a standout among New Jersey’s if not the nation’s community colleges.

Sincerely,

Barbara Basel
Acting President, May-June 2022
Vice President for Human Resources
YEAR IN REVIEW: Activities and Achievements

JUNE 2021

Athletics Hall of Fame honors inaugural inductees

The long and distinguished history of athletics excellence at Mercer County Community College (MCCC) is formally celebrated at a kickoff ceremony at Trenton Country Club. Fifteen individuals and three teams were honored as the inaugural inductees of the MCCC Athletics Hall of Fame. More than 250 fans of Vikings athletics came out to applaud the proceedings.

Chemistry of learning and giving defies Covid-19 shutdown

In continuing partnership with MCCC, the Trenton Section of the American Chemical Society (TrACS) rewarded two Chemistry students for their diligence and achievement at a ceremony via Zoom. Selected by the Chemistry faculty based on their GPAs and submitted essays, TrACS scholarship recipients Luisa Quezada graduated in May and Jeanette Mieses continued her studies at Mercer in the Fall.

Performing arts and photography serve artistic expression in Covid-19 year

MCCC’s acclaimed Theatre and Dance Company students create and impress with a unique immersive outdoor performance of “The Romantics.” JKC Gallery in Trenton offers a virtual and in-person photo exhibit, “The Mark and the Memory,” exploring the role of photography in documenting and processing trauma.

JULY 2021

Kelsey Theatre curtain rises for return to live performances

Double-cast as a Covid precaution, “Ordinary Days” ushered Kelsey Theatre’s eagerly anticipated return to live performances following the venue’s disappointing pandemic-forced closing for more than a year.
Work continues, new OneStop Center nears completion

Providing current and prospective students a spacious, attractive, and convenient new space for collective college services, OneStop covers all of the enrollment bases: course registration, new student advisement, bursar/tuition needs, and financial aid. Measuring approximately 25,000 square feet, the Center features multiple reception desks and a waiting area full of colorful, comfortable furniture. Additional spaces accommodate group and individual study and student computer stations as well as offices for Admissions, Transfer Services, Military and Veteran Services, and Student Records. County and state Chapter 12 programs funded the project.

MCCC Foundation’s “Closing the Gap for a Better Future” Spring fundraising exceeds goal

Providing financial support to the college’s most vulnerable students, the five-month campaign ending June 30, 2021 took in $133,827 – far surpassing the original $100,000 goal. This total represents monetary contributions from area businesses as well as individuals such as faculty, staff, students, and community members.

AUGUST 2021

Photo finish: president meets and greets graduates following cancelled commencements

Struggles of the Covid era were sidelined as graduates of 2020 and 2021 sporting traditional cap and gown arrived over a three-day period with friends and family in tow to have photos taken with college president Dr. Jianping Wang. Following cancellations of what would be traditional MCCC commencement ceremonies, students who exhibited perseverance and steadfastness unlike any time in history finally enjoyed their moments of triumph, a job well done and degree well earned.
Student newspaper, *The College VOICE*, impresses with three prestigious awards

In the annual Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence competition, often referred to as “the Oscars of college journalism,” MCCC competed against two- and four-year colleges in Region 1, which included four-year schools such as Harvard, Columbia, Syracuse, Vassar, Williams, Lehigh, and Rider. *The College VOICE* accounted for the only community college in Region 1 to win any of the 147 total awards this year.

MCCC wipes out millions in student debt

Debt of nearly $5 million in qualified balances for tuition, fees, and other costs to students enrolled during the pandemic was cleared off the books. The college received the initial round of nearly $2 million in 2020 through the federal government’s Higher Education Relief Fund of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, also known as the CARES Act. MCCC received two more rounds of federal funds – the latest through the third iteration of the CARES Act called the American Rescue Plan – and dispersed another $3 million in debt forgiveness. The funds were earmarked to pay expenses from the Spring, Summer, and Fall semesters of 2020 and the Spring and Summer semesters of 2021.

SEPTEMBER 2021

OneStop Center opens with a floorplan to student success

Planning for the Center began in 2018, with construction taking approximately 11 months. A large portion of the Student Center’s second floor that previously housed numerous separate offices and office cubicles, and corridors, was transformed into a well-lit, welcoming design and layout, with walk-up front desks and staff available and ready to serve students both onsite and online.
Viking baseball players teaming with Miracle League a big hit for children with disabilities

Assisting according to each child’s need, some pushed wheelchairs while others simply ran alongside the batters. An international organization with more than 300 chapters, the Miracle League in their words “removes the barriers that keep children with mental and physical disabilities off the baseball field and lets them experience the joy of America’s favorite pastime.” The Miracle League of Mercer County was the 15th local chapter to be founded in the United States and first in the Northeast.

OCTOBER 2021

Annual Golf Classic scores 30th year for student-athletes

Organized by the MCCC Foundation teaming with the Athletics department and in partnership with Haldeman Auto Group, this year’s event raised $35,000 which, despite limitations imposed by Covid restrictions, matched the event’s 2019 proceeds. Student-athletes from MCCC’s baseball and softball teams volunteered at this tournament fundraiser vital for the success of the MCCC athletics program and the students who participate in the college’s nine team sports.

MCCC Foundation fundraising honors the legacies of three pioneering leaders of James Kerney Campus in Trenton

The endowed Frederick, Jones, Weaver Scholarship Fund is earmarked for JKC students in memory of Dean Edward Frederick, Assistant Dean Donald Jones Jr., and Provost and Dean Monica Weaver, all of whom left major imprints in the lives of thousands of MCCC students.
MCCC establishes Citizen Leadership Center

The campus resource is designed to train students and members of the community as “citizen leaders” working to better their communities and the country. To date, MCCC is one of only 11 community colleges across the nation where model Citizen Leadership Centers are being developed in partnership with The Citizens Campaign, a community of problem-solvers dedicated to restoring service, mutual respect, and pragmatism to America’s political culture.

NOVEMBER 2021

The show goes on: a refurbished Kelsey Theatre reopens

With Coronavirus restrictions finally eased, the lights were back up and the curtains raised on November 12 at Kelsey Theatre. The theatre sported new seating throughout as well as new hands-free bathroom fixtures, fresh paint, and new exit signs.

Athletics facilities sport new technology

Installation of livestream technology enables families and fans near and far, anywhere they have Internet access, to watch their favorite Vikings teams in real time.

MCCC awarded designation as Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) Center

Mercer’s TRHT Campus Center will pursue the goal of preparing the next generation of leaders and thinkers. It aims to be community-integrated and play a vital role in the national TRHT effort to address the historical and contemporary effects of racism and to promote transformational and sustainable changes.
Board of Trustees announces search for seventh MCCC president

Following Dr. Jianping Wang’s decision to retire, national higher education search firm R H Perry & Associates joins a college-wide search committee to identify candidates and select finalists. Participants included MCCC faculty, staff, students, trustees, and key community and MCCC Foundation stakeholders.

DECEMBER 2021

Picture this: a global pandemic and unstoppable MCCC students

MCCC’s JKC Gallery in Trenton showcases the works of Photography students who graduated during the pandemic.

Community partners celebrated at president’s reception

In a long delayed tribute, MCCC welcomed the college’s most steadfast and generous community donors along with Foundation Board members, MCCC trustees, and county officials to the President’s Reception, a festive event hosted by the MCCC Foundation at Mercer Oaks.

Horticulture students lend Student Center a nature’s bounty of winter cheer

As a class project, Floral Design students constructed a life-size picture frame they called “Winter Magic.” Designed as a floral “photo op” for Mercer students and staff alike, the frame featured a wide assortment of the season’s favorites including evergreens and winterberries, some actually harvested from around the college campus.
JANUARY 2022

Nursing pinning ceremony survives the pandemic

With the first in-person pinning ceremony held at the college in two years, 41 graduates of the Nursing program take their places among the region’s frontline healthcare workers. In an emotional event at Kelsey Theatre, also livestreamed, members of the Nursing Class of Winter 2022 reflected on the extraordinary challenges they faced pursuing their associate degrees in the midst of a global pandemic.

FEBRUARY 2022

MCCC commemorates Black History Month with focus on health and wellness

Activities exercised the body and mind, boosted the spirit, nurtured healthy lifestyles, and gave students an opportunity to donate blood to help their neighbors. Collaboration involved MCCC’s Black History Month committee along with the Educational Opportunity Fund and Student Life and Leadership offices.

James Kerney Campus Gallery celebrates five years as part of Trenton arts scene

Innovative approaches borne out during the pandemic reach a far larger audiences than ever envisioned as the JKC Gallery served to attract local and regional lens-based artists as well as a destination for nationally recognized artists.

Food pantries at West Windsor and Trenton campuses are stocked and ready to serve

The pandemic put a pause on the college’s mission of addressing hunger and food insecurity among students. While the James Kerney Campus had a food pantry open in 2019, it took until February 2022 for the full food pantry project to be completed and in service on both MCCC campuses.
Peace Rooms keep calm, offer respite for students

In the wake of a global pandemic that upended so many aspects of daily life, Peace Rooms on both campuses were comfortably furnished and reserved for all members of the college community who seek to sit quietly, reflect, and regroup. Visitors of a diverse MCCC population are welcomed to exercise their spirituality or other grounding practices through silent reflection, prayer, and meditation. Inspirational materials and texts from varied faith traditions were provided by the MCCC Library and private donors.

MCCC TriO programs celebrate with week of special events and community service

TRiO programs at MCCC, including Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search, have served tens of thousands of middle and high school students for more than four decades. Both programs serve those who are traditionally under-represented in post-secondary education because of income, family background, disability, or other factors that make it harder to prepare for and successfully complete high school and college. Events included motivational speaker MCCC alumnus Brad Butler, a virtual college access day at Rutgers University, a “Why Trio Works” roundtable at Trenton Central High School, and a cookie drive to benefit the Children’s House at Capital Health.

MARCH 2022

Academic Theatre and Dance programs awarded Kennedy Center honors

MCCC was the sole community college among participants from two- and four-year schools to win a performance award – Excellence in Devised Theatre – at the 2022 virtual Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region II. The festival featured five days of theatre and dance workshops presented by world dancers, directors, and actors, culminating in a Devised Theatre Showcase of videotaped student performances. MCCC received the prestigious award for scene 3 of its original work, “The 9/11 Memorial Performance Project.”
Making headlines: student reporters win 27 state and national awards

MCCC’s student newspaper, The College VOICE, continued its award-winning tradition, earning top honors in multiple state and national competitions. The combination of wins cements the VOICE’s powerhouse reputation as the top two-year newspaper in the state and one of the highest ranking and most award-winning in the nation.

Graduates in the pipeline with Trenton Water Works Training and Apprenticeship Program (TAP)

The learning flowed, as Mercer provided current Trenton Water Works employees with the education necessary to advance their careers and pursue higher-level jobs in water treatment and distribution operation and maintenance. Students participated in apprenticeships managed by the New Jersey Water Association with support from MCCC and the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Apprentices received 290 hours of training, including 180 for the Operator Prerequisite Course at Mercer.

Counseling Center offers “Fresh Check Day” and expanded services with holistic approach

The MCCC Counseling Center sees more students than ever, due in part to the usual stresses of college life, but also on account of rebounding from the pandemic shutdown and those craving in-person connections. Recognizing that many students have never participated in a counseling session, the Center introduced Let’s Chat, a free, private, virtual drop-in service to introduce students to the counseling experience and help them with specific problems. A mental health “Fresh Check Day” for students on both campuses included interactive booths, refreshments, community resources, prizes and more.
APRIL 2022

Following extensive national search, Deborah E. Preston, Ph.D. named new MCCC president

“It is my honor and privilege to be selected as the seventh president of Mercer County Community College,” said Preston, who continues a 30-year career in higher education. “MCCC is passionate about serving students and the residents of Mercer County, and I am thrilled to join both campuses as we work together to provide inclusive, high-quality education for our community.” Previously Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Raritan Valley Community College, she earlier served in various roles at Montgomery College and what is now Perimeter College at Georgia State University. She earned a Ph.D. in English from Tulane University, and undergraduate and post graduate degrees from Florida State University.

MCCC hosts free outdoor “Jam for a Cause” concert on the quad

The early evening music and a mini food truck festival attracted hundreds to the West Windsor campus quad to enjoy MCCC’s 16-member Jazz Band along with one of New Jersey’s favorite cover bands, The Nerds. A portion of the proceeds benefited the Watershed Institute of New Jersey, with the food trucks donating $300 combined and the entire MCCC Student Government Association team matching that, for a grand total of $600.
**MAY 2022**

Nearly 800 grads applauded at first in-person commencement ceremony since 2019

The Class Of 2022 will be remembered for so commendably adapting to a shifting landscape that required online learning and extra determination and discipline to achieve college goals. Rainy weather, prompting the proceedings to move from the campus quad to the Gymnasium, did not dampen MCCC pride. Earlier, the college recognized more than 100 highest-achieving candidates for graduation at Honors Convocation.

Traveling Smithsonian exhibit spends month at Mercer

In partnership with the New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH), Mercer County Community College hosted *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America*, based on an exhibition on display at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. One of six New Jersey community colleges selected by NJCH to host *Voices and Votes*, MCCC included a Mercer County section of artifacts from the Trenton Public Library’s Trentoniana Collection and a photographic survey of Mercer County monuments and murals.

**JUNE 2022**

MCCC talents bloom for return to Philadelphia Flower Show

Approximately 25 students, faculty, and alumni collaborated to create “Re-leaf,” a 400-square-foot display focusing on the healing, restorative power of gardens and natural environments. Joining with students in the college’s Horticulture and Plant Science programs, Ceramics students created plant labels shaped like leaves as well as bowls to hold fruit designed to attract butterflies, and Graphic Design Club members made informational posters based on research by the Horticulture students.
Smiles say it for Division of Lifelong Learning’s Dental Assisting graduates

In partnership with non-profit KinderSmile, MCCC honored the second cohort of students to graduate from the Introduction to Dental Assisting program. The early June ceremony occupied, produced smiles on, the second floor of the Health and Science Building of MCCC’s James Kerney Campus, above the new KinderSmile Community Oral Health Care Center in Trenton.

Home of champions: MCCC inducts Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2022

Hosted by the MCCC Foundation and Athletics Department, the college’s second annual Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony honored three national championship teams and nine individuals. More than 250 attendees joined the celebration, including members of the inaugural Class of 2021 along with family members, friends, and MCCC staff.

MCCC alumnus Daniel Klim (’96) named chair of MCCC Foundation Board of Directors

Serving as 1st vice chair of the Foundation since 2020 and with a longstanding passion for MCCC beginning during his time as a student-athlete in the college’s halls and on its fields more than 25 years ago, Dan succeeds (effective July 1) outgoing chair Dr. Aamir Rehman. In addition to playing baseball for the Vikings from 1994 to 1996, he worked in the college’s Athletics department from 1994 to 1996. Dr. Rehman, meanwhile, expressed his passion for education and commitment to MCCC delivering the college’s commencement keynote address in May.

Community volunteers join MCCC Foundation Board

The MCCC Foundation, maintaining its mission to generate funds for student scholarships and other college priorities, welcomed three new community members to its Board of Directors: Hendricks S. Davis and Diego Maya, both of Princeton, and Cesar Marroquin of Cranbury. Indebted to its Board, the Foundation continues to focus on developing community understanding and support of the college and its programs while establishing mutually beneficial partnerships and relationships.
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Marc J. Vecchiola
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Javier Vivas
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Henry Von Kohorn
Cynthia J. Von Rhine
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Starbucks Coffee Company
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Texas Roadhouse
Trenton Country Club
Vault Brewing Company

Vault Brewing Company
Trenton Country Club
Texas Roadhouse
MCCC Annual Report 2021-2022
**Foundation Mission Statement**

The MCCC Foundation is an independent 501c3 Corporation supporting the mission of Mercer County Community College and the community it serves.

The Foundation assists the college and the advancement of public higher education by broadening the base of community and financial support. Through friend raising, advocacy and fundraising efforts, the MCCC Foundation nurtures educational opportunities benefiting the students of Mercer County Community College.

The MCCC Foundation acts to encourage, solicit, receive, hold, invest and award private and public gifts, bequests and donations serving Foundation goals. Such gifts are applied to academic scholarships and other programs not funded through traditional sources. At the same time, the Foundation provides assistance to donors through a comprehensive program of tax-wise gift alternatives through planned giving.

Critical to the success of this mission is board membership of fully committed and participating individuals who represent, are connected to, and can influence the significant constituencies of the community. Areas of representation include business, education, the professions, government and the community at large.

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**FOUNDATION FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Gifts and Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support and Revenue</td>
<td>$2,091,338.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,956,673.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*includes Gifts in Kind</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship Awards</td>
<td>$650,627.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>$48,701.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs and Activities</td>
<td>$269,159.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$968,487.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in Net Assets</td>
<td>-$2,194,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$15,378,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, End of Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,184,064</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Funds raised by the MCCC Foundation support current students or are directed to multi-year capital projects or endowments.*
COLLEGE FINANCIALS FY22

Revenues

- Federal and State Non-Operating Grants: 21%
- State On-Behalf Aid: 7%
- Auxiliary Enterprises: 4%
- County Aid: 25%
- Federal, State, and Local Grants: 10%
- Capital Grants: 3%

Expenses

- Scholarship and Other Student Aid: 38%
- Operations and Maintenance of Plant: 9%
- Instructional Support: 6%
- Student Services: 6%
- Academic Support: 5%
- Public Service: 5%
- Instructional: 3%
- Auxiliary Enterprises: 5%
- Depreciation: 27%

TOTAL BUDGET
$57,393,500