

Virtual Learning Focus

End of the Semester Greetings!

As we complete the final weeks of the fall 2015 semester, I want to express my appreciation for everything each of you has done to educate and assist our 5,948 online students.

With this edition, Virtual Learning thanks Caroline Mellinger and Suzanne O'Hop for their hard work over the past three years. Under their leadership, Virtual Learning began offering fully online programs, expanded online and blended training opportunities for faculty, and assisted in improving online student success rates.

Additionally, we warmly welcome three people to the Virtual Learning team: John Conforti, Kelley Engle, and Dwayne Hunt. We also celebrate Joe Mendrzycki as the new assistant director for the Center for Design and Instruction. See pages 3 and 4 for more details.

I wish each of you a successful end to your semester and a relaxing break. Happy Holidays to all!

"For last year's words belong to last year's language, and next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning..." — T.S. Eliot



Focus on Faculty

New Recognition Portal

On Nov. 30, human resources introduced *The Hawk Eye*, HACC's new online recognition portal. This program replaces the Core Awards program and is designed to recognize employees for exceeding expectations in service to the College and supporting HACC's core values of integrity, collegiality, excellence, and trust.

The Hawk Eye allows you to:

- send messages of thanks and congratulations to other employees via the **Send eCard** option.
- see real-time recognition being given and received on the **Hemingway High 5** wall.
- nominate colleagues for awards given by the College.
- submit a request to promote recognition events occurring at the College.
- view current recognition **News and Events** involving HACC faculty and staff.
- learn about recognition tips and best practices.

To login to *The Hawk Eye* portal, please select *The Hawk Eye* link in the Human Resources information channel of myHACC (see above, right). A guide is available on myHACC that includes step-by-step



directions to help you navigate the portal. The guide may be found within the document search information channel by searching "The Hawk Eye".

Supervisors were invited to special on-campus training sessions that will provide an overview of different elements of *The Hawk Eye* recognition site. If you are a supervisor and did not receive this email, or if you have other questions, please contact Courtney Young, coordinator, performance management and employee recognition, by email at clyoung@hacc.edu or by phone at 717-736-4135.

We are excited about the launch of *The Hawk Eye*.

Team Member Hires/Promotions

Dwayne Hunt, Dean of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Virtual Learning and Lebanon Campus

Dwayne is an experienced higher educational practitioner with more than ten years of proven success at community colleges and other higher education institutions. His previous role with the college was an associate dean of academic affairs at the Harrisburg Campus. Prior to that role, he served as the assistant dean of students at Palm Beach State College in Lake Worth, Florida. He has worked as the



academic coordinator at Penn State University-Schuylkill Campus and had served in various roles while at Miami Dade (Community) College.

Dwayne's professional experience includes academic affairs, academic advising, academic support, adjunct faculty, career services, enrollment management, multicultural activities, student life, and student conduct. Dwayne currently co-chairs the Men of Color Work Group, whose mission is to work with the college community in developing and

implementing academic and social initiatives that support Black and Latino men at HACC and beyond. He also been appointed to the HACC Foundation Board for 2016.

Kelley Engle, Dean of Academic Affairs, Virtual Learning and Lebanon Campus

Kelley has served as the associate dean of the York Campus for the past two years. Prior to this, she was



the interim computer technology department chair for one year. She also has teaching experience at various institutions (HACC; Penn State; University of Maryland, Baltimore County) in various modalities (face-to-face, blended and online).

Kelley earned a Ph.D. in information systems from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2013 and her research interests are in data mining, artificial intelligence and health informatics. She is currently teaching data warehousing at the Harrisburg Campus and plans to teach data mining (blended) in the spring. She is in the process of building the data mining course in

eVolution Studio for online delivery in the future.

Joseph Mendrzycki, Assistant Director for the Center of Design & Instruction



Joseph Mendrzycki has served as senior instructional technology specialist at HACC for eight years. In that role, Joe assisted faculty with designing and developing learning solutions for their online, blended, and enhanced courses.

In his new position, Joe is responsible for the continuous improvement of HACC's online and blended training opportunities and support of faculty as they design and develop courses across all learning environments.

Joe earned his M.S. in instructional technology from Bloomsburg University, PA. He is also an adjunct instructor at HACC, teaching both computer fundamentals and website design. Previously, he has worked as a technical writer, corporate trainer, and instructional designer in various industries.

Team Member Hires/ Promotions ...continued

**John Conforti, Admissions
Counselor, Virtual Learning and
Lebanon Campus**



John Conforti earned his bachelor's degree in speech communications from Millersville University and is currently working on his master's degree in integrated marketing communications from West Virginia University. After many years in sales, he found his passion through admissions work at YTI, where he helped students pursue their dream careers. He is beyond excited to do the same here at HACC.

In his spare time, John likes to write and perform comedy for the stage and enjoy all the time he can with his lovely fiancée, Amanda.

New Brightspace Version—10.5

On Dec. 23, HACC will be implementing Brightspace 10.5. Here are the highlights you can expect from this update:

Students can submit assignments through Google Drive: Students will now be able to link their HAWKMail accounts to Brightspace. This will allow them to submit assignments to the Brightspace dropbox right from their Google Drive! Fear not—when the assignments are submitted in this way, the end result is converted from any Google Drive format into the Office equivalent (.docx, etc.).

Faculty can create badges and certificates to recognize achievements: Faculty will now have access to the "awards" tool, which can be used to create badges and certificates quickly and easily. These can be set to release to students based on criteria set up in the class: scoring well on a certain assignment, completing all the work of a given type, or other setups using the existing release conditions options. From meeting outcomes to gamification to just giving students graphical "kudos," faculty can use these award tools for all sorts of purposes.

Improved homepage dashboard for faculty: Faculty will be able to take advantage of a more visually streamlined faculty homepage in Brightspace. Favorite courses can be "pinned" for easier access, and images can be added to those pins to help personalize user experience. Text links will still be available below this visual "pin" area.

Here is a 2-minute "highlight reel" of some of the new features, prepared by academic technologies' own Sue Savidge: [Brightspace 10.5 Highlight Reel](#)

Did You Know?

- 69% of Virtual Learning's fall 2015 students were female.
- 31% of Virtual Learning's fall 2015 students were male.
- 38.5% or 2,312 students were *only* taking online classes.
- Popular majors include nursing, general studies, business administration, and business management.



focus on Student Success

Student Leadership Retreat

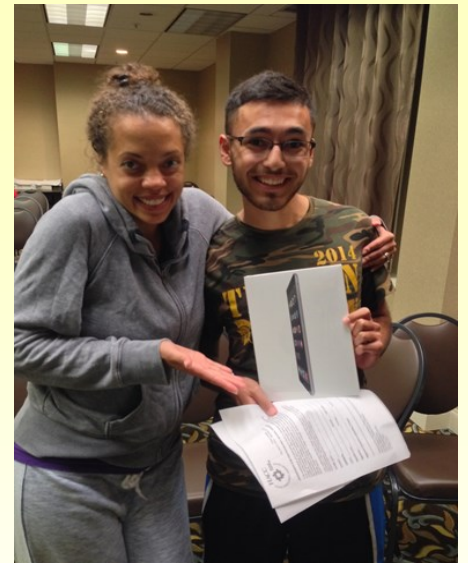
In October, HACC's student leaders were not relaxing over their established fall break; rather they were coalition building for positive transformation during the Student Leadership Retreat. The retreat is exclusively designed and executed by leaders within the offices of student development and multicultural programs and advisors of the student government organizations at each of the campuses and Virtual Learning.

Students had the opportunity to explore leadership in new and innovative ways. The retreat and theme

centered on topics that require students to reflect internally through investigation and examination of their personal story, the story of others and the impact their decisions have on them, others, and the communities around them.

Topics explored focused on serving as change agents, leaders, professionals, teamwork specialists, and communication and social justice experts.

Several golden tickets were raffled off to the student leaders in attendance. The lucky leaders are featured below.



The Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council (VLSAC) donated an iPad to the lucky leader, Christian Carrera at the Lebanon Campus, with Jazmin Simpson, Virtual Learning student success manager.





VLSAC Students Get Honored in a Big Way

Brianna Neil (pictured above)

- Business Administration Major
- Council Chair, Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council (VLSAC)
- HACC Foundation Board Member
- Shared Governance Policy Chair
- Social Media Task Force Student Member
- Phi Theta Kappa Member

Brianna received the ALL USA SCHOLARSHIP. She is one of only two students per campus who has been selected for nomination with the ALL USA SCHOLARSHIP and will be placed in competition for the ALL-USA Community College Academic Team, Coca-Cola Community College Team, and the New Century Scholars Award.

Brianna has also been selected as one of two PASSHEE scholarship recipients. As a beneficiary of this prestigious full-ride PASSHEE scholarship, she will have the opportunity to attend any one of the 14 state schools in Pennsylvania.

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Course Registration Tips

Gina Bowers-Miller states, **"Time to THINK SPRING...Semester that is..."**

Calling all online faculty to please take a moment in your classes to encourage students to register for the spring semester.

We offer the following tips to encourage students to register.

Registering early...

- guarantees a "seat" in the class. Final grade submissions should not be a deterrent, as changes to class schedules can be made, if needed.
- influences student success as educational goals are pursued in a timely manner.

Advisors play a key role in helping students understand what courses are needed, obtaining career and program-related guidance, and receiving an advisor code, if needed. Student advisor information can be found in their MyHACC account.

For Steps to Spring Course Registration, click [here](#).



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Stacey Cullen

- Criminal Justice Major
- Communications Chair, Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council (VLSAC)

Stacey Cullen received The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 15, Gettysburg Award Scholarship. This award was established by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 15 to provide financial assistance to students who are residents of Gettysburg/Adams County.

Students must demonstrate unmet financial need as evidenced by completion of the FAFSA, must be a military veteran or the child or grandchild of a veteran, must have completed 6 credits, and must reside in Gettysburg/Adams County.

National Conference on Student Leadership



Stacey Cullen and Jazmin Simpson attended the National Conference on Student Leadership (NCSL) in Washington D.C. during Nov. 19-22. Stacey actively participated with the optional Certified Student Leadership program available prior to the conference beginning.

This program seeks to strengthen a student's leadership foundation by advancing skills in three main areas: self, group, and campus leadership.

At the conclusion of the program, Stacey was awarded a certificate of completion.

Stacey is eager to implement new

tactics by applying the concepts learned from the conference to advance, not only her leadership skills, but also the Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council (VLSAC).



Focus on Upcoming Events



Upcoming Events

#haccvirtual Twitter Chats

Tuesday, Dec. 15, 12pm – Chat Highlights from 2015

For more info about accessing the Twitter Chats or to see past chats, visit: <http://www.hacc.edu/NewStudents/Connect/Twitter.cfm>.

Fall 2015 Commencement

Tuesday, Dec. 15, 6pm

Giant Center

550 West Hersheypark Drive, Hershey, PA

Staff Meeting (everyone welcome)

Friday, Dec. 18, 9-10:30am

W-226D or VoicePlus, 221-1305

Conference ID 211011#

Online Program Webinars

Jump Start Your Success Welcome Event

Wednesday, Jan. 13, 12pm & 5:30pm

Friday, Jan 13, 12pm

<http://hacc.adobeconnect.com/vnso/>

Virtual Learning Team

Faculty Leadership:

Full-time:

Karen Woodring, VCFA Chair

Lise-Pauline Barnett, VCFA Vice-Chair

Xiaoqing Zhu, from Operations House

Shared:

Mary Jo Keiter

Adjunct:

Diane Edmond, from Operations House

Non-Voting:

Kari Meck, CITE Coordinator

Tamara Girardi, VCFA Secretary

Leadership:

Kelley Engle

Dwayne Hunt

Amy Withrow

Admin. Assistants:

Elaine Holland

Joanne McPherson

Student Support:

Gina Bowers-Miller

John Conforti

Emily Fox

Jazmin Simpson

Technology:

Melissa Dietrich

Josh Rumpff

Cindy Schanke

Joe Mendrzycki

Qiquan Wang

David Wartell