Health Professions Opportunity Grant program continues rapid growth

By Kelly A. Verkem

The Paramedic Science program has received a Letter of Review from both the National and New Jersey accrediting bodies and will begin in September 2014 at BCC in the Meadowlands, the latest achievement by the Health Professions Opportunity Grant program. HPOG was developed and is led by Professor Jennifer McCarthy.

An important aspect of developing as a health professional is community service. HPOG has a partnership with grant recipients and teaches students to pay it forward through giving back to the community. All grant recipients have a 10-hour service learning commitment for every semester they are receiving support. Students have completed a number of incredible experiences at the college and in the community.

The HPOG Student Network is a monthly session that focuses on emerging topics in healthcare for both the credit and non-credit students participating in the grant. This year’s topics included Interdisciplinary Patient Care, End of Life Issues, Stress Management/Study Skills, Resume Writing and Job Interview Skills, Multigenerational Healthcare Teams and Holistic Healthcare.

The sessions are led by HPOG Counselor Tenesha Lynch and Dean Susan Barnard. Health Professions faculty and counselors have an active role in the HPOG Student Networking sessions.

HPOG is a five-year, $24 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services administered by the Office of Grants Administration. The grant, which is in its fourth year, targets low-income students with personal and professional challenges who currently receive TANF or General Assistance and whose family income falls below current guidelines. The grant provides tuition assistance, book vouchers, reimbursement for uniforms and lab needs and, in some cases, child care and/or transportation assistance. It aids eligible students attending Health Professions programs at Bergen Community College, as well as at nine other colleges under the aegis of the Northern New Jersey Health Professions Consortium.

HPOG is designed to strengthen workforce preparation, basic skills and competencies, supportive services and health occupations certification training leading to high skill, high wage employment in the health sector. Indeed, Bergen student Sharon Hinds said, “After nearly three years of collecting unemployment, I found a job through the (HPOG) program. I successfully completed the Certified Nurses’ Aide course after six weeks of classes at Bergen.”

BCC offers several options for students eligible to participate in this initiative, including courses offered through Continuing Education as well as credit bearing. For a complete list, check out the website at [http://www.nnjhpc.org/resources/course-list](http://www.nnjhpc.org/resources/course-list).

To date BCC has served 313 eligible students in both credit and non-credit credentialed programming. 160 of those students have completed their programs and 138 are currently enrolled in classes. Seventy-three of our

(Continued on page 2)
Bergenstages presents the Bertolt Brecht/Kurt Weill classic musical “The Threepenny Opera”

By Jim Bumgardner

What a great opportunity it is to be able to mount this production of “The Threepenny Opera” here at BCC, starting on April 11, 2014.

Brecht’s ‘epic theatre’ and Weill’s music are such an important genre in theatre and music history that this has become such a wonderful teaching opportunity; shows like “Cabaret” or “Chicago” wouldn’t have ever happened if it weren’t for this musical paving the way back in 1928.

To give a little background to the Bertolt Brecht/Kurt Weill class musical, the play is based on John Gay’s 1728 ballad opera, “The Beggar’s Opera.” It is set in London in 1837, before and during Queen Victoria’s Coronation. Macheath (or Mack the Knife) marries Polly Peachum. This displeases her father, who controls the beggars of London, and he endeavors to have Macheath hanged.

His attempts are hindered by the fact that the Chief of Police, Tiger Brown, is Macheath’s old army comrade. Still, Peachum exerts his influence and eventually gets Macheath arrested and sentenced to hang.

The musical will open in the Ciccone Theatre on the College’s main campus at 400 Paramus Road, in Paramus. Performances are scheduled for April 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. with matinee performances on April 12 and 19 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are $15.00 for general admission, $10.00 for senior citizens (65 and over) and all of Bergen Community College, and $5.00 for all students. Individuals can purchase tickets by calling (201) 447-7428 or online at http://tickets.bergen.edu.

The author is the director of Bergenstages, and a director and assistant professor of performing arts in the School of Arts, Humanities and Wellness. He can be reached at jbumgardner@bergen.edu or 201-493-3615.

(Continued from page 1)

students (45 percent) who completed programs have gained employment. By comparison, 2,288 students were enrolled in programs consortium-wide (1401 have completed their programs, and 549 are currently enrolled in classes); 734 of the students (52 percent) who completed programs have gained employment.

In addition to funding for students, the grant has provided the College with the means to develop courses that will enhance the participant experience, provide support where needed and help students realize their goals. A four-week “Smart Start” Course acts as an introduction to Healthcare as well an Adult Basic Skills Contextualized learning curriculum for Phlebotomy and EKG. HPOG also has supported the development of the emergency medical simulation lab. It was developed and implemented through a partnership between the Grants Office, Ciardo Learning Center and Continuing Education. The funding also afforded the College an opportunity to create an additional Healthcare Lab in Ender Hall; this increased our capacity and allowed us to serve more students.

Another major component of this initiative is employment. BCC is tasked with helping students write an effective resume, search for jobs online and handle interview questions. Individual coaching is provided depending on need. Weekly job leads are emailed to students and graduates until they find employment. Partnerships with local health providers have resulted in successful placements at Holy Name Hospital, Hackensack Hospital, CVS Pharmacy and many health care facilities. Sales Force (www.salesforce.com) software has been secured and developed so that staff can match students to jobs based on skill requirements and job specs and track the students’ job search progress. HPOG also partially funded the development of Career Coach, which is designed to help all find a good career by providing the most current local data on wages, employment, job postings, and associated education and training. This resource is available to everyone, campus-wide, at https://bergen.emsicareercoach.com/.

The author is the Manager of Grants, NNJHP-HPOG. She can be reached at kverkem@bergen.edu or (201) 301-1266.
BCC Marks World Malaria Awareness Day

By Ellen Rosner Feig, JD

As part of the Science Infusion Program (“SIP”), Bergen Community College will hold its first World Malaria Awareness Day on April 25, 2014 from 12:30 to 5 p.m. in A104.

Begun by Dr. Barbara Davis, SIP combines a science class with an English class to further engage students in active, focused learning. This year, Dr. Davis and I have partnered a Microbiology class with a Composition 1 online class focusing on the global health issue of malaria.

Events on April 25 will include a lecture by Amy Maxmen, a science journalist who writes for Nature, Smithsonian and other national magazines. Ms. Maxmen will speak on “Tracking a Curable Killer: Malaria” and will showcase her own experience travelling and reporting in Africa. After the talk, students will be able to ask questions and engage in discussion with Ms. Maxmen.

After the talk, the HBO film Mary and Martha (starring Hilary Swank) will be shown. The film tells the true story of two mothers, one American, one British, who experience the heartbreaking effect of malaria when their children become ill. A discussion will take place after the film.

In addition, students, staff and faculty will be able to handle real malaria net, learn about the ongoing malaria battle from members of MalariaNoMore.org’s Power of One campaign and view short videos created by the SIP students.

The author is an assistant professor in the Department of Composition and Literature and advisor to Phi Theta Kappa. She can be reached at efeig@bergen.edu or 201-301-1243.
Sustainability—Caught in the Act of Goodness!!!

By Prof. Rachel Wieland

Get Your Green on! April Sustainability Events

April 4th—Comedy Night. A fun night of short skits, poems and songs—some of the acts will focus on sustainability
Where: C211
Time: 7 - 10 PM
Contact: Breanna bcfamularo@gmail.com

April 12th—MEVO Family Volunteer Day at BCC Paramus Campus. Plant trees, build bee hives, learn about growing a vegetable garden.
Contact: Eric J. Fuchs-Stengel ericjfs@mevoearth.org

April 21st—April 24th
Vintage Shop
Where: Student Center
Contact: Robin Wanner rwanner@bergen.edu

April 22nd (1st event)
Panel Discussion—‘What is Sustainability?’
Where: C211
Time: 12:30-2 PM
Contact: Prof. Robert Dill rdill@bergen.edu

April 22nd (2nd event)
Earth Day Celebration
Students will come together doing various fun activities such as Frisbee, drumming, and kite flying. Ice cream will be served.
Where: TBA (maybe the circle)
Time: 2-5 PM
Contact: Dr. Charles Sontag csontag@bergen.edu

Come out and join the fun!!

Wow Look at Those Bulletin Boards! Thanks Karen!

To honor Earth Month, Bergen Community College in Paramus will host an exhibit of clothing crafted from recycled materials. Karen Skoglund’s Adult Education Sewing Class at the college discovered that the practice of re-using fabric and articles of clothing goes back generations. The class will display their own creations along with those of Ms. Skoglund’s other sewing students.

(Photo of Karen on left)
**Judith Fitzpatrick, Ellen Feig and Drorit Beckman Bring Big Ideas and Innovation to Campus**

Those of us in the sustainability field want to be part of the show whether it’s science projects or community projects. Through platforms such as STEM Day, TEDx, and the Research Summit, these women reign in giving sustainability a platform to showcase. We wanted to give them all a huge thank you for their wonderful programs and helping us have a voice!!

*Photo (on right): Pete Hauenstein Speaking at the TEDx Conference regarding the importance of education and oceans.*

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**Youth Collaborator Publishes**

*Book Reviews*

**Bill McKibben**

“A great adventure with a great and enduring point: we simply must protect these last, vast slices of the planet that still work the way they’re supposed to.”

**Jane Goodall**

“An extraordinary book… His vivid writing immerses you in his adventures as he explores an ancient pristine forest where no white man has been, where he encounters amazing creatures, and experiences the relentless power of untamed nature… There are parts that will haunt you, scenes you will never forget.”

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**The Old Toilet Paper System Gets Flushed for a Better Model**

Big thank you to VP Ron Milon, Joseph Irvin, and Sam John. You may not always notice the big changes happening right under your nose but this past semester we had the installation of three water filter systems on the Paramus Campus, two more on the way to be implemented at the Meadowlands Campus. Plus! All the toilet paper systems have been upgraded to a much less wasteful system. These guys deserve a HUGE thank you for making such wonderful changes happen on campus!!!

*SUSTAINABILITY-CAUGHT IN THE ACT OF GOODNESS!!!*
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Trudy Banta

9am—11:30am, TEC128

Professor of Higher Education and Senior Advisor to the Chancellor for Academic Planning and Evaluation, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

Recipient of ten national awards for her work, Dr. Banta has consulted with faculty and administrators in 47 states, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates on the topic of outcomes assessment and has given invited addresses on this topic at national conferences in Australia, Canada, China, England, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Lebanon, New Zealand, Scotland, and Spain. She has developed and coordinated 26 national assessment conferences in the U.S. and 15 international conferences held in Australia, Austria, England, Finland, Germany, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Scotland, South Africa, and the United States.

Banta has written or edited 18 published volumes on assessment, contributed 30 chapters to other published works, and written more than 300 articles and reports. She is the founding editor of Assessment Update, a bi-monthly periodical published since 1989 by Jossey-Bass and winner of a national award for overall excellence in 2003 and the APEX Award for Editorial Writing in 2012.

Division Breakout Sessions 1:30-4:00

1) Arts, Humanities and Wellness: TEC-128
2) Business, Social Sciences and Public Service: Ciccone Lobby
3) Health Professions: TEC-201
4) Math, Science and Technology: C-211

Faculty will have their division time broken up into three parts

* As a Division
  * CCSSE data
  * Gateway to Success
  * NJ Student Success Data
* As a Program or Department
  * Viability
* Individual or Small Group Work

Ice Cream Social
4-4:30pm
Cafeteria
Upcoming Faculty Development

"Constructing Writing Assignments to Elicit Analytical Thinking and Clear Writing”
Tuesday, April 22, 12:30pm in W221
Dr. Suzaan Boettger, who for three decades has regularly published journalistic art criticism and scholarly articles and is working on her third book, will describe procedures she uses to try to minimize naive, confusing, and boring writing by students and to promote clear and persuasive thinking/writing.  http://ww3.bergen.edu/fp/sboettger/Pages/default.aspx

Maximizing Data Use
This workshop will illustrate how assessment data can be used by your department for more than assessment purposes

Presenters: Maureen Ellis-Davis, Gail Fernandez, Ilene Kleinman, Joseph Mamatz, Mauro Marzocco, Jill Rivera & Sony Tiwari

Dates: Wednesday, April 9, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m., room C-325
Thursday, April 10, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., room C-325

Presented by: CIE and Faculty Development

To GMO or Not to GMO?
This lunchtime chat will discuss three articles on GMOs. The articles can be in the Library’s reserve system by using the course Faculty Development and the password fd.

Presenters: Joan Tscherne, John Smalley & Mary Flannery

Date: Tuesday, April 29 at 12:30pm in A241

Presented by: Faculty Development

Thursday, April 17, 2014 • 12:30 p.m. | Pitkin Education Center • Room L-131

Dr. Dolores Perin is a professor of psychology and education, coordinator of the Reading Specialist Program, and a senior research associate at the Community College Research Center at Teachers College, Columbia University. Her research interests include the contextualization of reading and writing instruction, writing skills of community college developmental education students, and interventions for academically-underprepared students.

The event is excellent for all faculty especially those interested in the Science Infusion Program (SIP).

To R.S.V.P., please contact Barbara Davis at bdavis@bergen.edu.

The contents of this flyer were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

Presented by: STEM GPS, THE SCIENCE INFUSION PROGRAM AND BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE & FACULTY DEVELOPMENT
Throughout the country Faculty Senates are not as ubiquitous as they used to be. Some that do continue to function do so only periodically; some, unfortunately, appear to have become toothless. Consequently, these do not seem to be the best of times for shared governance at American colleges and universities. After all, without strong, independent, and assertive Senates doing their appropriate jobs free from inappropriate intrusions, shared governance becomes illusory. And without consequential shared governance systems college leadership can easily become imperial as we slide, sometimes ineluctably, toward inappropriate corporate leadership models.

Someone recently told me that the Bergen Community College Faculty Senate is more effective than 99% of college and university Senates. If this is so, what is it that makes our Faculty Senate both effective and highly regarded? For one thing, the Senate has been a significant and stable part of academic life at Bergen since the college’s beginning. Gerard Tortora was the first elected-Chairperson. He was followed by Neil Ender, who was elected Chair of the Senate and President of the BCCFA for several decades—his leadership providing continuity to the concept of faculty leadership and unity at the college. After Professor Ender’s retirement George Cronk served as the Senate Chairperson and, when he chose to step down, I was selected in a competitive election—and have served since as Bergen’s fourth Senate Chairperson.

The agendas for our meetings are set by the members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, but agenda items are also regularly suggested to us by both individual Senators and members of the college administration. Any appropriate item can be added to the Senate agenda when someone simply requests that it be added. In this way, it is clear that the Senate functions in a democratic manner—an essential source, I believe, of its strength and repute. While the Senate is not a decision-making but a recommending body (all Senate resolutions go to the President of the college for approval), the Senate insistently maintains its independence. And historically, it has been usual for Presidents of the college to support and approve the recommendations made by the Senate.

The Senate is also independent of the other faculty leadership group, the BCCFA. Several years ago there were some complaints that I was allowing union matters to be brought up and considered on the floor of the Senate. The Executive Officers of the Senate, which includes, and always has included, BCCFA leaders, took this concern very seriously—and union business is carefully and insistently not brought up or considered on the floor of the Faculty Senate. While not everyone would agree with that assertion, numerous Senators as well as members of the college administration have appreciatively noted this. It is adamantly important that the Faculty Senate be perceived as what it is and must be: the site where the faculty carry out their shared governance responsibilities regarding all college-wide academic and student affairs issues in an independent manner.

As you can see, the leaders of the Senate are elected by the faculty, through their Senate representatives. We have leadership responsibilities that are clearly delineated in the Faculty Constitution. Meetings are conducted in an open and democratic manner. We maintain the independence that a Faculty Senate must maintain. But every member of the Senate, and this includes our administrative and SGA colleagues, shares in leadership responsibilities. By speaking up, and speaking freely, at meetings—thereby engaging in the necessary debates that are essential at well-run colleges—by voting on important issues, by reporting the work of the Senate back to your colleagues, every member shares in insuring that our Faculty Senate continues to be the model of an effective and responsible faculty governance entity that it has always been—and that it must be. Without assertive and independent Faculty Senates, colleges cannot meet their pivotal mission—to educate students and help them to succeed by achieving their goals.

The author is a professor in the department of Composition and Literature and Chair of the Faculty Senate. He can be reached at akaufman@bergen.edu or 201-493-3550.