



Realizing Potential,
Building Futures

Gateway Community College by the Numbers

As the largest of Connecticut's 12 community colleges, Gateway Community College transforms the lives of students and strengthens the fabric of community life, offering innovative academic programs for certificate and degree completion, professional development, and career advancement. GCC is a dynamic institution of higher education with a diverse student population striving to impact their futures, their families, and their community.

GCC STUDENTS

- 6,864 enrolled for credit
- 28% full-time
- 72% part-time
- 26 average age
- 60% female
- 40% male
- 5,989 seeking degree
- 257 seeking certificate
- 618 non-degree/certificate
- 3,611 Pell recipients
- 27% from New Haven
- 66% from 12-town region
- 37% Caucasian
- 28% Hispanic
- 24% African American
- 809 Class of 2019 graduates





There is nothing more impactful, or more rewarding, than influencing and expanding the possibilities for students seeking to advance academically, professionally, and personally. Our academic programs and expansive student activities provide attractive pathways for students to excel in their chosen field.

We are very fortunate to have exceptional faculty – as is evident in their unwavering commitment to helping each student achieve success. Complementing their work is the unwavering dedication of members of the community who graciously step up to assist our students. We collaborate productively with employers and industry leaders, creating opportunities that respond to student goals and workplace needs, and always keep students front and center.

Higher education can be a launch pad to what's possible. Looking to the future of the students of Gateway Community College, I am confident that, propelled by their remarkable and inspiring skill and determination, they will surely soar.



Paul Broadie II

Paul Broadie II, Ph.D.

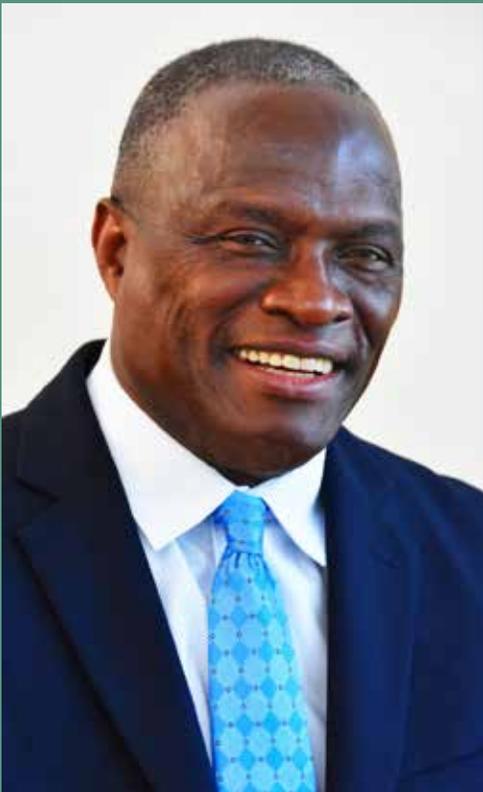
President,
Gateway Community College

The heart and soul of community college education is opportunity.

We are in the business of educating and training to give individual students the chance to realize their particular dreams. Each student's path may be different; each journey presents its own challenges and occasional obstacles; but the common thread is determination, dedication, and a clear-eyed vision of what hard work can achieve.

That's why community colleges were established, that's why they are an indispensable ingredient in any community. Everyone who encounters Gateway Community College sees the value first hand. Whether a member of the faculty or staff, a volunteer, a financial supporter or a community representative, together they all contribute to encouraging students to pursue their aspirations, and always stand ready to guide them along the way.

It is a thriving collaboration that we greatly appreciate, and through which we are successfully Realizing Potential and Building Futures.



Thomas G. Coley

Thomas G. Coley, Ph.D.

Regional President,
Shoreline-West, CSCU

Gateway Community College provides residents across the region with an affordable, accessible opportunity to get an outstanding education; train for a fulfilling, financially secure career; and improve their, their families' and their communities' quality of life.

I am passionate about what Gateway offers our city and region, its business community and – most importantly of all – the 10,000-plus full- and part-time students who benefit from the exceptional faculty and staff, remarkable facility, and superb education it provides. It is the students, faculty, and staff who distinguish Gateway as a center of educational excellence.

Community colleges have been described as “essential” to “higher education’s goal of serving the national interest.” No college does better by its students than Gateway. The consistent support and generosity of so many throughout our community is unceasingly inspiring and indispensable. As these pages vividly illustrate, together we are making students’ dreams come true.



Paul A. McCraven

Paul A. McCraven

Chair, Gateway Community
College Foundation
Board of Directors

Community Connections Benefit Students



Preparing Surgical Technologists for Growing Field

In a pristine lab set up to mirror a hospital operating room, Gateway Community College's first class of Surgical Technology students is training to meet a critical need in the healthcare field, locally and nationally. Surgical technologists are experts in sterile technique and are responsible for maintaining the sterile field during surgery. They work closely with surgeons, registered nurses, and anesthesia personnel.

As part of their training, GCC students rotate through clinical sites including Yale New Haven Hospital, St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, Waterbury Hospital, and Bristol Hospital. Upon graduation, they'll move into careers with responsibilities for assembling and organizing specialized instruments, equipment, and tools needed for a variety of surgical procedures in hospitals and surgical clinics. The new academic program is part of the Allied Health and Nursing Division at GCC and is based at Eli Whitney Technical High School in Hamden. GCC is partnering with Housatonic Community College in the program, and Yale New Haven Hospital funds the Clinical Coordinator position at GCC.



GCC President Paul Broadie II and Quinnipiac University President Judy Olian; Quinnipiac University campus.

Unparalleled Experience in Cadaver Class

The caliber of academic offerings at Gateway is evident in the unexpected. With support from the Gateway Community College Foundation and in partnership with Yale Medical School, Human Cadaver Anatomy (BIO 213) and Survey of the Human Cadaver (BIO 217) are designed to “provide a comprehensive study of the structural organization and function of the human organism.”

The coursework, unlike any at a community college in the United States, allows students to become intellectually proficient as well as develop their clinical skills, with the curriculum taught in a series of lectures and in the gross anatomy laboratory at Yale Medical School.

“The students are astounded with each class, learning an incredible amount,” explains Anatomy & Physiology Associate Professor Eric Meyers, a licensed and practicing physician who leads the classes. Students receive “an incredible appreciation of anatomy and physiology, and their future pursuits in healthcare.” By going beyond the customary reliance on models and laminates, Meyers explains, the training provides an “advantage to be accepted into professional programs, since the experience of human cadaver dissection is extremely rare for most students pursuing healthcare.”

Described by Meyers as “an investment in the lives of future healthcare professionals” for the region, the coursework provides educational experiences (that) are particularly valuable for students who strive to attend medical school, physician assistant school, nursing school, or a program in allied health.

Seamless Transfer to Quinnipiac University Pact Inked

Graduates of Gateway Community College are now able to seamlessly transfer to Quinnipiac University, the result of a new collaboration launched in 2019.

Gateway graduates are guaranteed admission into a bachelor’s degree program with third-year (junior) status at Quinnipiac when they graduate with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA with an associate degree in arts or an associate of science in business, college of technology engineering science, nursing or an allied health degree.

Gateway students also must satisfy Quinnipiac transfer admission requirements and requirements for their intended major. Under the new agreement, Gateway students can also take one Quinnipiac course per year free of charge while enrolled at Gateway, with a maximum of three courses per student.

“The opportunity to take free classes at Quinnipiac University while completing their associate degrees provides remarkable access and incentive for our students,” said Gateway President Paul Broadie II.

Community Connections Benefit Students



Career Conversations with Women of Color Inspire Students

This Is Us: Career Conversations with Women of Color was a candid discussion among women who have created careers in a variety of industries, providing Gateway students with relatable evidence that career success doesn't come with a roadmap. In observance of Women's History Month in March, the forthright conversation featured individuals who faced adversity, questioned career paths, overcame uncertainty, and cleared obstacles along their professional journeys.

Joy Monsanto, owner of 50's on Fitch Restaurant and Lounge, recalled that she initially worked in the cosmetics industry. She next transitioned into a real estate career, developing an interest in fixing up blighted houses, before seeing a chance to open a restaurant. She invested a great deal of money to open a location, only to face racism and discouragement. She

persevered, and advised students to do the same: "Don't let anybody put you in a box. People told me I could not do this."

Apriel Biggs-Coker said that growing up she was one of only a few Black students at her school and often felt out of place. She went on to earn an engineering degree and was hired by Sikorsky Aircraft in a job that involved travel, affording her the chance to fulfill a dream to see the world. "Where you start isn't always where you finish," Apriel told the students. Now a director in the ITS Portfolio Management Office at Yale University, she told students not to feel pressured in their career trajectory.

The takeaway message of the compelling stories shared with students: The path to a successful career is not always clear. Changes in life sometimes necessitate a shift in plans, but being willing to change allows dreams to flourish.



Building Futures with *Skill Up for Manufacturing*

The Skill Up for Manufacturing program was developed to quickly channel people into entry-level manufacturing jobs, providing the fundamentals that employers need. The coursework familiarizes students with the basic mechanical and manufacturing skills and engineering knowledge required for an entry-level employee in a manufacturing or related field. The curriculum, developed in coordination with manufacturers, includes basic trade knowledge, workplace skills, and production readiness through online-based instruction, instructor lectures, hands-on labs, and a variety of video and personal experiences.

In April, 20 students graduated from the intensive five-week free training program, the second cohort to complete it at Gateway Community College. The program is managed by Workforce Alliance of South Central Connecticut, with input from Penn Globe, PTA Plastics, Wepco Plastics, Inc., Brooks & Whittle Packaging Solutions, as well as the New Haven Manufacturers Association.

Individuals accepted into the program attend classes for six hours per day, five days per week, and job search assistance is available during and after the training program. At the graduation ceremony at Gateway, Class Speaker Juan Melendez observed that students came away with new knowledge about teamwork, soft skills, math, and more. He leaves the program, he explained, with confidence in his value to a company.

Manufacturing Instructor Bill Schmalzer explained that change is constant in the industry, and the average person has six jobs at six different companies throughout their career. Being adaptable, he said, is the key to success. Skill Up for Manufacturing provides students a solid foundation, which employers and their new employees can build on.

Step Forward



"I am so proud of our students and all they've accomplished," says Jaime French, Program Director for Gateway Community College's Step Forward (SF), a non-credit, two-tiered transition program for young adults (18-21) with a variety of disabilities. Participants in the highly regarded program engage in a range of activities, including vocational exploration and career planning, personal finance education, and interpersonal and workplace communication.

It is the only program of its kind in Connecticut located on a college campus and operated by the college. That brings a unique higher education perspective, French explains, which makes a difference for participating students.

"It's a Gateway program, and students are embraced as Gateway students. Throughout the Gateway community, people look out for them, and they're in an age-appropriate setting, filled with resources and opportunities. We're able

to assist and guide them, so they can take the driver's seat in their own lives."

Step Forward I, which is one of two 10-month program offerings, includes instruction on daily living skills, including how to navigate a college environment. There is a focus on self-advocacy, and community and campus-based social activities. Placement is determined by individual ability and needs. Some students begin with Step Forward I; others with Step Forward II.

The Step Forward II / High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder (HFASD) blended program is designed for students who are academically qualified to enroll in classes at Gateway. Topics covered in the Step Forward II/HFASD program include effective study skills and executive functioning skills development, understanding college expectations and goal setting, interpersonal communication and social skills, career exploration, and resume writing. Students take for-credit Gateway courses simultaneously.

Approximately 20 students attend Step Forward each year, with ongoing support from an advisor/mentor, along with community-based service learning projects and, for many, an on-campus unpaid work experience in an academic office, lab or program. Step Forward also includes a collaboration with Gateway's Nutrition and Dietetics students, providing those students real-world experience in giving a formal presentation to an audience. Step Forward students learn about nutrition directly from their peers. Similar connections are made with Exercise Science students, benefitting all involved.

The program's reputation, expert staff, and distinctive design continues to be very attractive to students who need "just a little more" after high school to be fully ready for what's next, whether it be the rigors of a college curriculum or entry into the workforce. Step Forward operates as part of the GREAT (Gateway's Resource, Education and Training) Center.

The progress and achievement of students is inspiring. Many matriculate as full-fledged Gateway students, earning degrees or certificates as the foundation for successful, fulfilling careers. Others have transferred to colleges across the region, opening opportunities that may not have been attainable if not for the instruction, training and varied educational experiences of Step Forward.

Early Learning Center



2019 was a year of milestones for the Early Learning Center (ELC) at Gateway Community College (GCC). The highly regarded ELC observed its 35th year of providing exemplary preschool to area children while training Gateway students to become early childhood educators. During the year, the Center was able to extend both the hours of operation, and the ages of children who could attend, with a new after-school program for Pell-eligible GCC students.

For parents of young children, coming to grips with the seemingly endless expenses of childcare can be daunting. Being a working parent or attending college, or both, can be a challenge due to a lack of access to quality, affordable childcare. The ELC at GCC makes the impossible possible for parents, while providing a first-rate practical learning experience for college students.

Fully licensed and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the ELC is a lab preschool. As such, the ELC serves students earning degrees and certificates in Early Childhood Education, Psychology, Nursing and Nutrition at GCC – as well as students who attend other colleges, such as Yale University and Albertus Magnus College. In all, nearly 200 students each year use the Center to complete assignments required by their academic programs.

“It is a win-win-win, for the parent, student and college,” said ELC Director Sarah Chambers, who has led the ELC for four years, bringing extensive experience in a range of childcare settings. “We are able to provide a nurturing, encouraging environment for our children,” explains Chambers, “and demonstrate to college students what a quality program looks like. For those students, seeing first hand how to work with young children provides an education like no other. It is the best way for them to get started as they begin to build their careers.”

The ELC focuses on the strengths, interests, abilities, and needs of the children. This child-centered approach is used to encourage children to develop at their own pace in a warm and stimulating learning environment. Hands-on sensory experiences encourage children to think, analyze problems, and arrive at conclusions based on their own experiences.

Licensed for 60 children, the ELC has three classrooms, each for a maximum of 20 children ages 3-5, and operates from 7:30am to 5:30pm, September through June. Tuition includes breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack. As a lab school, a choice of three instructional models are offered; Child Development, Modified Montessori, and Diversified Creative Curriculum.

The ELC offers substantially reduced rates for residents of New Haven and GCC students taking at least one course at the college, and also serves many children from surrounding areas and towns whose parents work in New Haven. All families benefit from federal and state grant funding, which enhances the ELC’s operation.

Student Profile



Down deep, Tiairra Slade always felt that college, and ultimately nursing, would be in her future. The only questions were how and when. As often happens, life intervened. Years later, with encouragement from her two children, and with Gateway Community College providing the path forward, she embarked with a mix of trepidation and determination on a long-delayed journey to fulfill her promise.

The 30-something New Haven resident had always encouraged her children - even at a very young age - that college is a goal worth striving for. She herself had gone to work directly after graduating high school in 2004, ultimately becoming a clinical technician at Yale New Haven Hospital. But when they asked her one day about her own college experience, she decided it was time "to show them, rather than tell them." So, in 2016 she enrolled at Gateway, a single mom of an 8-year-old and 3-year old.

"I'm happy I did it the way I did it," Slade said of her delayed entry into college. Her strong sense of purpose drives her efforts, allowing her to put in the time needed to achieve academic progress. She is more focused now than she would have been years ago, she says, motivated by her lifelong interest in helping others, coupled with the opportunity to demonstrate to her children that "it can be done." And her children remain her "biggest supporters." They understand, she says, that "when it's time for Mommy to do her work, they do their work." And that's how homework gets done.

The biggest challenge in returning to school after many years wasn't the English class or the math course (in fact, turns out she loves math), it was "managing time." Understandable, given all that she's dealing with on a daily basis, much like the vast majority of Gateway students. Her bumps in the road included stresses of finances and housing, at various times. "I'm a thinker," Slade explains, "so I'm always thinking about what I need to do." But there was no doubt at all, from the first time she set foot in a Gateway classroom, that "I was so happy. I loved it."

Her nature is to quietly deal with whatever comes her way. Her default is to keep to herself, not reach out, not seek help – even when assistance is clearly needed. Gateway, and more specifically the Family Economic Security Program (FESP) at Gateway, revealed to Slade that there is a different – and better – way. The program provides students with academic, career, financial, and personal support. When she enrolled, FESP soon became the support system that made all the difference in the world.

"They are my angels. They made me feel comfortable, I learned to associate with classmates, not just go to class and go home," she recalled.

FESP includes one-to-one coaching, professional development workshops, support with networking skills, and scholarships. Slade likens it to a family – always there for what you need, when you need it. Not surprisingly, she hopes one day to pay it forward, "I'm a giver," she explains, "and it can be hard to stay in school and not have to worry." FESP is the support system, or the "village," that encourages her to get past setbacks and stay on track.

She is on her way to graduate next year, with her sights then set on pursuing a degree in Nursing.

Board Profile: Ruby H. Melton



Ruby H. Melton is passionate and relentlessly committed to the students of Gateway Community College. Her enthusiasm is unmistakable in the countless hours she devotes to service on the Gateway Community College Foundation Board, leading the Scholarship Committee, chairing the record-breaking 2019 Hall of Fame Induction, and in nearly every conversation with anyone.

At the heart of her dedication is mentorship, and the impact that one individual can have on another. For her, mentoring has provided the “most enriching” experiences of her life, Melton shares without hesitation, and is at the center of her numerous community involvements.

“Mentoring can change lives in so many ways. We can open a student’s eyes to opportunities they didn’t know about, give them confidence, guide them to reach their full potential,” Melton explains. “We help them to discover strengths within themselves, and we can connect them with resources.” Although she retired in 2008 from a stellar career in maritime and international law and the commodities industry, which had brought

her to locations throughout the world, it has been a retirement in name only. Melton is a non-stop volunteer extraordinaire, bringing her skills to numerous nonprofits in Greater New Haven and beyond. And she is an ardent advocate for community colleges.

“Community colleges are the backbone of our communities,” she explains. “I’ve always had a very strong belief in what they can achieve and the impact they can have. I deeply believe in their mission. Every student who comes through our doors has an opportunity to find their purpose, and will have an opportunity to succeed.”

She saw in her own family, decades ago, the difference that can be made in someone’s life when they are connected to opportunities and given a chance. Those who might otherwise have been marginalized can excel – and often do. Melton was among a handful of community leaders to assist in launching Gateway’s Executive Mentoring Program, and not too long afterwards she assumed leadership of the Foundation’s Scholarship Committee after joining the Board in 2017. It was a perfect fit.

The diversity of experience and circumstance comes through in scholarship applications, reflected in a range of age groups; individuals looking to change careers; and students who are precariously balancing young children, elderly parents, multiple jobs, or all three, along with school. Scholarships can provide funds to help students make car or rent payments, or purchase groceries – thus allowing their pursuit of a Gateway education to proceed without interruption.

“When you sit down and talk with students about everything happening in their lives and their hopes and dreams – what they plan to do with their education, and why they want to do it – it changes your heart and your mind. Even if you hear only one story, you know it is really multiplied by many. You’re just blown away.”

Melton points out that “everyone at the College and on the Board works really hard in the community to tell why Gateway is so important to creating opportunities for deserving students, and how doing so helps to build our workforce and our economy. People are catching on to the impact we have,” she observes, “and we are grateful for their generosity.”

When speaking with prospective donors, Melton often describes the connection this way: “Any one of you can help students achieve their goals. The impact is even greater than you may have imagined. And it really changes you, as well.”

2019 Hall of Fame Induction



Gateway Community College students, in the words of Ruby H. Melton, are “shining examples of determination, commitment, and achievement.” The 22nd annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held in October, a gathering filled with inspiring stories and expressions of gratitude to all whose contributions support students every step of the way.

Traditionally the single largest source of Foundation scholarship aid for deserving Gateway students, professional development for faculty and staff, and programmatic needs for the college, the 2019 Hall of Fame set an all-time record for donations. Melton, the 2019 Hall of Fame Chair, led a dedicated, hardworking committee, earning unprecedented results and providing a fabulous evening for all in attendance. Melton, a Foundation Board member and Scholarship Committee Chair, underscored that, as a community, “We can’t afford not to invest in these students,” because after graduating Gateway, they will “go into the community and give back ten-fold.” Melton kick-started the second year of the Laptop Challenge, which provide laptop computer scholarships to students. That resulted in sufficient funds to purchase 62 laptops, exceeding results from the initial year.

2019 Hall of Fame Alumni Honorees Keith DeCosta and Nicholas Naclerio were honored in recognition of the solid careers they’ve built on the foundation of their Gateway Community College education.

Keith T. DeCosta received his associate degree in Railroad Engineering Technology from Gateway in 2018 and was hired by Amtrak as a signal maintainer helper in the Communications and Signaling Department. His responsibilities include installing signal-related components, relays, track switch machines, color light signal assemblies, grade crossing systems, and signal system/positive train control interfacing equipment. A volunteer member of the Branford Fire Department, he was instrumental in securing a donation of used Amtrak signal equipment for students in Gateway’s Railroad Engineering Technology program.



Nicholas S. Naclerio, C.P.A., is Vice President of Corporate Tax for AllianceBernstein (AB), an investment management and research firm with over \$500+ billion in assets under management, where he leads the global tax accounting and compliance functions for the firm. After receiving an associate degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from Gateway, he went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Accounting from Southern Connecticut State University, and successfully launch his career.

Student Speaker Monica Maldonado shared her "transformational experience" at Gateway, which began after a decade away from school, as she acclimated to academics and adjusted to college life. She became interested in the Student Government Association (SGA) when she came across a meeting notice. "I jumped right in," she explains, starting out as Vice Chair of the Campus Activities Board and then stepping up to become SGA Vice President, and later, President. "While I was learning to become a student," she explained, "I learned to become a leader." She was the driving force behind Gateway's first Earth Day event, "Choose 2 Reuse" and has testified at the State Capitol in support of community college funding. Her numerous academic achievements were aimed at earning an associate degree in Environmental Science and Toxicology. At Gateway, she explained, "There are people who believe in you, and that feeling is so enormously rewarding."

The Corporate Honorees inducted into Gateway's Hall of Fame – Jill Hummel and Greg Pepe – exemplify a longstanding commitment to the community. Jill Rubin Hummel, President and General Manager at Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, manages the company's local commercial, group, and individual businesses, including sales, account management, provider relations, underwriting, and product delivery. She is responsible for development of Anthem's long-term strategic direction and collaborates with key stakeholders to drive industry improvements. Hummel is also a member of the Gateway President's Executive Council.

Gregory Pepe is founding principal of Neubert, Pepe & Monteith, P.C., a New Haven-based law firm, where he heads the Healthcare Law practice area. His extensive experience in the healthcare market and its regulations enables him to guide clients in the ever-changing landscape of the sector. An active member of the Greater New Haven community, he provides leadership and support to civic organizations and nonprofits. Among them, he assisted Gateway in the launch of its Mentoring Program.

The Community Honoree at Hall of Fame was Faith Middleton, two-time Peabody Award-winning journalist and culinary fixture across the Connecticut and Eastern Long Island landscape and host of the long-running Food Schmooze on Connecticut Public's WNPR. Described as an "institution in her broadcast region," she was named Best Radio Talk Show Host by Connecticut magazine for 11 consecutive years. She also has been inducted into the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame.

The emcee for the evening was Diane Orson of Connecticut Public, among the journalists who spend time on campus in the WNPR studio, where Gateway students have the opportunity to pursue internships and learn about the broadcasting industry first hand.

From first moment to last, Hall of Fame 2019 provided "a chance to acknowledge the corporations, foundations, and individual citizens who support Gateway with their gifts of time, talent, and treasure," emphasized Dean of Development and Community Partnerships Mary Ellen Cody. The celebratory evening was a vivid reminder of "the capacity of a Gateway education to transform lives."

Ways to Give / Laptop Challenge



The Gateway Community College Foundation's Laptop Challenge expanded in 2019, driven by continued student need. Building on the 47 laptop scholarships provided in 2018, the inaugural year of the Challenge, donations to the Foundation for the purchase of laptop computers resulted in an additional 62 laptops being awarded to Gateway students to support their academic work.

Scholarship contributions – designated for laptops and other scholarships – earn the appreciation of grateful student recipients. "I will not have to borrow a laptop anymore in order to get homework done," said one student. "This will also allow me to concentrate better as I can take my studies to the library, rather than have to try to work in my noisy apartment complex," explained another.

"This will have a major impact on my education and professional career. It will allow me to focus on my studies and research projects," explained Liberal Arts and Sciences student Sona Ghorashi. "Thank you, GCC Foundation, for helping me along my journey to become a pharmacist."

Contributions that directly support students – through laptop scholarships and a range of other opportunities – are indispensable, and often life-changing. That is a reality reflected daily across the Gateway community. Gifts to the Gateway Community College Foundation are tax-deductible and help ensure that the college can continue to be at the forefront of higher education. The benefits are realized not only by students and their families, but also the entire community.

Ways to give include supporting students through the Annual Fund, establishing an enduring gift of education through an endowment fund, and assuring impact that lasts a lifetime through establishment of an individualized planned giving program. Individuals can also support specific academic programs, technology, and equipment, or participate in one of the Foundation's numerous scholarships.

The Helping Hands Fund and the Family Economic Security Program also provide immediate impact for students facing immediate or long-term challenges, economic and otherwise. Each provides a tangible lifeline to students at particularly tenuous and pivotal moments in their lives, helping to provide a foundation for future success.

To learn more about Ways to Give, contact the Foundation at gw-foundation@gatewayct.edu or 203-285-2617.



Dual Enrollment Programs

Nearly 700 students participate in a wide array of dual enrollment programs offered by Gateway Community College (GCC), as the various initiatives provide empowering opportunities for high school students throughout the region to take a significant step on the path toward a college certificate or degree.

One of those programs – Gateway to College (GtC) - is a semester-to-semester scholarship program that provides a unique alternative education opportunity for about 50 local high school students in danger of not graduating. Students can earn a high school diploma at GCC in partnership with New Haven Public Schools – with the added benefit of receiving college credits toward an associate or technical degree.

Said one graduate of the program, class of 2019: “The experience has been positive. I felt ready for the challenge almost immediately. I was excited to meet new people, create friendships, and be in the presence of students who had similar goals.” Added another: “The highlight of my attendance at GtC was getting honors and earning some college credit... going to Gateway is the best choice. This program helps you stay on track to graduate.”

Another initiative – the Arts & Ideas Fellowship – provides a dozen high school juniors and seniors from New Haven schools with a Spring Semester 3-credit course combining classroom instruction, coaching and assignments to develop skills in various forms of communication. The course culminates with a two week internship at the annual New Haven Festival of Arts & Ideas, which earns the students one additional college credit.

Gateway's largest dual enrollment initiative is the College Career Pathways (CCP) Program serving high school students from 17 different districts. This program offers courses in four career clusters: Education & Training, Health Sciences, Hospitality & Tourism and Transportation, allowing students to experience college-level coursework that leads to a Certificate and/or Associate Degree program. In 2019, the CCP Program collaborated with 29 secondary instructors teaching 12 college courses from those career clusters.

A new and innovative dual enrollment project, Hamden Engineering Careers Academy (HECA), was developed as a collaboration among Hamden Public Schools, Gateway Community College, New Haven Manufacturing Association, and the Hamden Office of Economic Development. The program prepares students in grades 9-12 to successfully complete an Associate of Sciences Degree or Certificate in Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD) or Quality Control Programs. HECA was launched in summer 2019 with its first cohort of 34 students.

Among the other dual enrollment programs are College Readiness Initiative, developed with the New Haven Public Schools, and the Middle College Initiative, offering college social science, humanities and business courses to New Haven high school seniors. In addition, GCC offers off-campus college courses to adult students at the New Haven Adult Education Center, including one-to-one advising for prospective GCC students.

GCC Academic Dean Mark Kosinski points out, “We are a very vibrant learning environment, providing education at an affordable price and with open access, and opportunities for career preparation or to transfer to the next level of education.”



“Every time I talk with a Gateway student, I come away with more respect and admiration for their commitment to build a better future for themselves, their families, and their community. I’ve never made a better investment, and I am confident that everyone who contributes to support Gateway students agrees.”

*-Jim Zoldy, President,
Halsey Associates*

“There is nothing more exhilarating, more inspiring, more impactful, than lending a hand to help students who need only an opportunity to prove what they’re capable of – and then to witness their progress first-hand as they succeed and excel.”

*-Thomas Beirne III,
Vice President and Senior
Wealth Management
Planning Officer,
Halsey Associates*

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Sam Osei, left, Nursing Department faculty member and funder of the G-MEN Scholarship, with student Manuel Jimenez, the recipient of the scholarship.

"The diligence, determination and perseverance of Gateway students is remarkable – and every success is the by-product of hard work and unrelenting commitment. I am proud to be joined by so many wonderful people who invest in student success. We all see the benefits, in individual lives and the life of our community."

*-Kevin Burke, Market Executive,
Wells Fargo Middle Market Banking,
Connecticut and NY Capital Region*

Donor/Scholar Luncheon

"We have asked our shining star students to bring with them the people who have inspired them, our Gateway family of donors, and our amazing faculty and staff who have supported them to help make this journey possible."

With those welcoming remarks by Dr. Rose Ellis, Gateway Community College's Dean of Administrative Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness, Gateway's 11th annual Donor/Scholar Luncheon was under way.

The celebratory event provided an "opportunity for donors and scholars to talk with each other and to remind us all that we all have stories to tell... about how we were motivated to move through the difficult road of life to achieve our goals," Dr. Ellis observed.

She shared her own story as the first in her family to graduate from college, congratulating the student scholars and urging them to "own all of your memories and experiences, no matter what they are, own them, they shaped us and they make us who we are today."

The festive gathering – with attendance of 274, the largest ever – celebrated Gateway's scholarship recipients and the generous donors who support them, saluting the hard-working, motivated students who earned scholarships in a highly competitive selection process.

More than \$129,000 in scholarships was made available to Gateway students during the year – the largest amount awarded since the Foundation's establishment in 1993. The GCC Foundation awarded a total of 131 scholarships, ranging from \$250 to \$2,000, often providing the difference between staying in school and being unable to do so.



The Donor/Scholar Luncheon also provided the platform for a preview announcement from Wells Fargo – the launch of a new scholarship program to support Gateway Community College graduates continuing their education at Southern Connecticut State University.

Student Speaker Sara DeBiase shared her story of a dream delayed, but not denied. For DeBiase, the traditional path to college was not meant to be. Soon, her time and attention was devoted to raising a family, and when her children reached school age, she knew the time was right.

Even though she fully anticipated there would be doubters, she had realized through the years what she was meant to do. And Gateway was the place to make it happen.

“I like physical work, I enjoy watching the way things work, I like putting things back together, who cares what people think, I’m going for it, I have nothing to lose, so I decided to pursue the GM auto technician program,” DeBiase explained. Now, graduation is just a year away.

The donors who make student scholarships possible earned her appreciation. “It is good people like you who enable us to live out our dreams to make ourselves better individuals,” she said. “For most of us, that extra gift is not only the financial support we need but also the encouragement to push us that extra mile in achieving our goals.”



Chefs of Our Kitchen (C.O.O.K.)

Chefs of Our Kitchen, better known as C.O.O.K., has become a delectable staple of Gateway's calendar. The tasty series of gatherings, which raise funds for the Gateway Community College Foundation and support scholarships for students, once again proved irresistible in 2019, showcasing experts from the New Haven region and beyond. As always, the talents of Gateway's own culinary students also were evident, and together made for enjoyable, engaging, and delicious evenings.



Rinku Bhattacharya

The fall series brought Rinku Bhattacharya, Chef and food writer, to campus in September. The author of *Instant Indian: Classic Foods from Every Region of India Made Easy in the Instant Pot*, she shared techniques and recipes that showcase the rich culinary diversity of Indian cuisine.

October brought Ryan Durant, Owner and Executive Chef of Assaggio in Branford, to Gateway's Café Vincenzo, bringing modernity to Italian cuisine with a focus on regional specialties. The local contender for People Magazine/Food Network's "Sexiest Chef Alive" turned familiar dishes into nothing short of spectacular. With ingredients, preparation and presentation, assisted ably by Gateway students, it was a memorable evening.

Throughout the series, students work side-by-side with the guest chef to prepare the evening's meal in the Café Vincenzo kitchen, and then serve what they prepared to the attendees.

"My experience of working closely with different chef-owners in the C.O.O.K. series has been a joy," reflects Gateway culinary student Sheena Infante-Davis. "To learn each style of different cultures for each cuisine is and will always be a memorable experience."



Mike Urban

Chef and author Mike Urban of Old Saybrook, author of three books – most recently *The New England Diner Cookbook: Classic and Creative Recipes from the Finest Roadside Eateries* – was the special guest in November. He was followed a month later by Daniel Brelford, a Food Network "Chopped Champion" and Bridgeport firefighter. Brelford, who attended professional development classes at Gateway a few years back, shared his experiences and how his love of cooking began as a young child and hasn't let up.

Earlier in the year, the C.O.O.K. series brought Francesco d'Amuri, chef and owner at the popular L'Orcio in New Haven, to Gateway in June. Sharing the recipe for business success and culinary masterpieces, d'Amuri's Italian dishes were immediate favorites, with tasty specialties lingering and Gateway students coming away with first-hand experience with one of the region's top chefs.

The annual C.O.O.K. series again reaffirmed it as the place to be for culinary events to intrigue, enchant, and tempt every palate, while supporting the career-building efforts of Gateway's talented students.

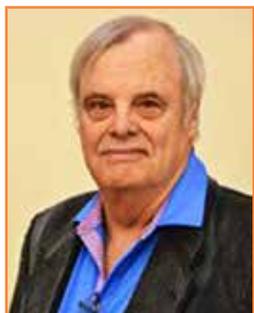
Our appreciation to People's United Bank for sponsoring the C.O.O.K. series, and for its continuing support of Gateway students.



Daniel Brelford



Faculty/Staff Profiles



Having developed new curriculum, led his academic department and earned recognition from his colleagues at the college and state level, **Rich Rees**, Business Professor and Business Department Chair, was selected to receive the 2019 Gateway Community College Faculty Appreciation Award.

Citing his impact as a teacher and leader, colleagues nominated Rees for his accomplishments engaging students through innovative activities that effectively convey business communication and critical thinking skills. Sharing business knowledge from years of experience in the corporate world, Rees provided students with guidance to develop their own abilities on a path to achieving business success.

Honored by being selected, Rees credited faculty and students for making it possible. “Most important to me is to express that all my success at Gateway, I owe to the distinguished faculty members of the Business and Computer Science departments. Without them, my time at Gateway would not have been the success it was.”

As chair of Gateway’s Business Department for 13 years, he contributed to the growth and development of numerous new programs and certificates. He co-created the Money Management for Life course and taught the Launch a Business course, a collaborative effort with Housatonic Community College and seven four-year schools.

Prior to his retirement in May, he had earned the state Board of Regents Outstanding Achievement and Service Award, as well as two Management Merit Awards. Beyond the classroom, Rees provided students with course assistance and career advice, and made himself available to colleagues to discuss teaching approaches and challenges.

As Director of Institutional Research at Gateway Community College, **Dr. Vincent P. Tong** leads data collection, analysis, and information management, and provides the data necessary to further student success, strategic planning, and grant writing. In recognition of his exceptional performance and unceasing willingness to take on challenging new projects, Tong was selected to receive the 14th annual Gateway Community College (GCC) Staff Appreciation Award in 2019.

His expertise has been consequential and is relied upon at Gateway. He served as a tri-chair of the New England Commission of Higher Education accreditation team at GCC for six years, and is on the Steering Committee for the comprehensive accreditation visit, responsible for providing data, information, and knowledge for the study.

“Not only does the award confirm my commitment to the service of the college, it energizes me to further my devotion for the community,” Tong said of his selection to receive the Staff Appreciation Award.

Tong also serves on the Board of Regents’ Steering Committee overseeing the effectiveness of developmental education across the system, is an active member of GCC’s Achieving the Dream, and, in addition to his institutional research role, has served for a decade as the Affirmative Action Officer at GCC.



Convocation

The journey of Gateway Community College's Student of the Year has been, and continues to be, inspiring. Arriving in the United States for a brief vacation from Poland, she decided not only to stay, but to

become an American citizen, pursue an Accounting degree at Gateway, and become involved in her new community. That is precisely what she has done.

Maria Magdalena Petrario not only earned her citizenship, graduated from Gateway and simultaneously embarked on the next steps toward her goal of becoming a Certified Public Accountant, she also demonstrated the ability, determination, and perseverance to excel and garner the respect and admiration of her peers and professors.

She was among the honorees at the Gateway Community College Awards Convocation, held just days before commencement. The ceremony, attended by awardees, family and friends, faculty, and staff, was convened at the Curran Community Center, with the support of the Gateway Community College Foundation.

A total of 55 Academic Achievement Awards were presented to students in Allied Health, Automotive, Business, Technology, Culinary Arts, Physics, Nursing, Human Services, Engineering, and Early Childhood Education. Recipients also included students pursuing a Drug and Alcohol Recovery Counselor course of study, the top three finishers in the 29th Annual Miguel Garcia Math Contest, and students in the First Year Studies English and Mathematics programs.

Two students, Gabriella Paiva and Ahmad Saeikhalili, earned two Academic Achievement Awards; Paiva for Academic and Clinical Excellence in Nuclear Medicine, Saeikhalili for Manufacturing Engineering Technology and Quality Control in Engineering Technology.



Commencement

Overcoming life's challenges, large and small, was an ever-present theme at Gateway Community College's enthusiastic and celebratory 27th Commencement Ceremony. The Class of 2019 included 809 graduates, as GCC awarded 998 degrees and certificates.

Keynote speaker Maria Praeli, Government Relations Manager at FWD.us, is a 2014 GCC alumna. Her work focuses on outreach efforts to elected officials, providing education and resources on immigration policy. She moved to the United States from Peru in 1999 at age 5, when her family sought medical treatment for her sister. Praeli attended public schools in Connecticut, and in 2012, her senior year of high school, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program made it possible for her to enroll at GCC, where she earned her associate degree in Liberal Arts. Praeli encouraged graduates to push forward, using their past struggles to leverage themselves, wield power, and demand a seat at the table.

Her comments were echoed by Gateway President Paul Broadie II, who encouraged the Class of 2019 to "continue to pave a trail for others to follow."



The year's graduates included identical twins Rhoda and Rhodaline Osei of Hamden, who are from Ghana and join their father, alumnus Sam Osei, in obtaining degrees from GCC. Rhodaline graduated from high school in Ghana in 2015 and began at GCC shortly thereafter. The idea of moving to the United States was both exciting and "kind of scary," Rhoda told the *New Haven Independent*, especially because of the differences between British and American English. Their father,



Sam, encouraged them "to be the best, wherever you go," Rhoda recalled.

His daughters are both Certified Nursing Assistants and earned admission to the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society while at GCC. They plan to continue their studies at Southern Connecticut State University – Rhoda studying criminal justice; Rhodaline focused on business administration.

Student Eilee Dingus performed the National Anthem at the ceremony, held at the Webster Bank Arena. Stephen Fries, GCC Professor and Coordinator of Hospitality Management Programs, who has taught at GCC for more than three decades, served as Grand Marshal and Kim Shea, M.S.W., Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator for Human Services, received the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Highlighting Gateway's community connections, William W. Ginsberg, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, received an honorary associate degree. Ginsberg has served as President and Chief Executive Officer at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven since 2000. Described by Mark Kosinski, GCC Dean of Academic Affairs, as "a staunch and unwavering supporter of the College and a champion for developing educational programs to meet workforce needs," Ginsberg told the Class of 2019, "The diploma you receive today is a passport for lifelong learning and that is, in turn, your ticket to a place in the 21st century economy."



In addition, Jerry Franklin, recently retired President and Chief Executive Officer of Connecticut Public Broadcasting, Inc. (CPBI) and nearly four decades in the broadcasting industry, received the GCC President's Award. Under Franklin's leadership, CPTV won two National Daytime Emmy Awards and over 100 Regional Emmy Awards. He was instrumental in bringing WNPR's studio onto the GCC campus, which has provided internships and other opportunities for GCC students.

For New Haven resident Gail Williams, 60, graduating with an A.S. in Human Services is life-changing. "It saved me," Williams said of the education she received and degree she earned at Gateway.

Gateway Community College Foundation *fiscal year ended December 31, 2019*

The Gateway Community College Foundation operates exclusively to support the students, faculty and staff of Gateway Community College in the delivery of high-caliber, experientially rich academic programs, responsive to student needs and community priorities. The Foundation's activities consist of corporate and individual fundraising and disbursement of monies in the form of student scholarships and institutional program grants; there are no staff expenses.

| | 2019 |
|--|--------------------|
| Revenues, gains and other support: | |
| Contributions | \$524,806 |
| Investment income | (8,521) |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 187,104 |
| Hall of Fame reception | 159,993 |
| Other fundraising programs | 13,548 |
| Other income | 1,084 |
| Net assets released from restrictions: | |
| Restrictions satisfied by payments | - |
| Total revenue, gains and other support | <u>878,014</u> |
| Expenses: | |
| Support to the College: | |
| Scholarships and awards | 162,577 |
| Faculty development | 13,130 |
| Support Programs (Athletics, Family Economic Security Program, Neighborhood Assistance Act grant, and Esther H. Schiavone Cultural Fund) | 225,340 |
| Hall of Fame reception-Direct costs | 30,689 |
| Other fundraising programs-Direct costs | 13,126 |
| Capital campaign fundraising | 32,578 |
| General and administrative | 93,991 |
| Total expenses | <u>571,431</u> |
| Change in net assets | 306,583 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | <u>2,012,706</u> |
| Net asset, end of year | <u>\$2,319,289</u> |

Gateway Community College Foundation

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The entire GCC family extends our appreciation and a fond farewell to Dr. Paul Broadie II for his inspiring leadership and determined advocacy for Gateway Community College students. His diligent efforts, collaborative initiatives, and constant encouragement benefitted our entire community and helped students achieve new levels of accomplishment. We wish him continued success in his higher education career and share our gratitude for his influential and productive years leading Gateway.



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The 2019 Community Report is made possible with generous support from Halsey Associates, reflecting their commitment to our students and Gateway Community College. Halsey Associates has been a part of Washington Trust Wealth Management, one of the premier wealth management firms in the region, since 2015. Their parent company, The Washington Trust Company, founded in 1800, is the oldest community bank in the nation. Washington Trust's solid foundation and strong roots sustain Halsey's commitment to its clients.



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