Dear Students:

Welcome to the New Year 2014!!!!!
I trust that you had a wonderful time with your family and friends.

Our January issue is about transition and the changing landscape at Bergen Community College:
• Have you heard the term ONE STOP? It refers to a concept where you’ll be able to get all of your enrollment needs processed in one location. Room A-128 in the Pitkin Education Center (Paramus) has a larger space for registration, financial aid, career services, and the Violence Intervention Prevention Office. Check us out.

• Have you seen some of the physical changes at Bergen Community College?
• Have you noticed there is more space at the registration area in A-128?
• These changes are important in our vision to build a ONE STOP center.

New Process for Registration
• In-person registration at any of the College’s three locations will continue until Friday, January 17;
• Online registration via portal (my.bergen.edu) will now continue until Monday, January 20 – new registrations will not be accepted after this date;
• For classes that begin Feb. 11, registration ends Feb. 10; for classes that begin March 25, registration ends March 24.

On-Time Registration is a new initiative to help our students be successful in their courses by establishing a solid foundation through planning early and being in their classes on-time their first day of class—this way students will not have to miss important material taught during the first few days of classes.

Bergen Community College is now offering Spring I, II and III classes at all locations (Paramus, Hackensack and Lyndhurst).
The start dates for each session are:
Spring I ..................................................................................January 21
Spring II ..................................................................................February 11
Spring III ..................................................................................March 25

For more information please contact the Registration office:
Phone: (201) 447-7218
Email: regoffice@bergen.edu

Important Dates and Deadlines at the Philip J. Ciarco Jr. Learning Center

Did You Know You Can Take Classes for Credit at the Ciarco Learning Center?
• 7 courses offered for regular Spring 2014 Start
• 12 courses offered for Flex Start beginning March 25, 2014
• Holiday fundraiser for the Bergen Animal shelter, ongoing through the New Year

Please visit www.my.bergen.edu to search for classes.
Victor Muniz

Think about the endless possibilities that an eighteen year old has to look forward to as they enter into their early stages of adulthood. They have endless opportunities as they decide whether they want to study at a trade school, attend a College or University, or whether they want to immediately obtain a career outside of High School. There is no direct path to success and everyone begins different stages of their life at different times; my journey was altered by an accident that occurred in 2008.

Imagine being a graduating senior and having offers from numerous colleges and universities to play basketball at some of the top schools in the country. I was driven, ambitious, courageous, and extremely passionate about my goals, and nothing was going to get in my way of achieving my dreams. In June 2008, I became permanently disabled by a tree that broke during a hurricane. As one could imagine, hearing that I would never be able to walk again left me feeling hopeless, nervous, and unsure about what would become of me. Many doubted that I would ever be able to do things that the so called regular person is able to do, like graduate college, get married, and obtain a successful career. I was not going to let this accident stop me from achieving goals that I’ve had since my childhood, and although my path was altered, this would not determine my outcome.

Since my accident, I have shown people that the impossible is possible, even for the kid sitting in a wheelchair. I am currently attending Bergen County Community College and have achieved a 3.6 GPA. I was drawn to Bergen Community College after completing a series of skills tests with a career counselor. The results of these test showed that Hospitality Management would be an ideal career for me. Berge Community College has a great reputation for their Hospitality Management degree. Their Office of Specializes offers accommodations for students with disabilities to achieve our goals, so this was an easy choice for me. In June 2014, I will be receiving my Associate’s Degree in Hospitality Management. I am currently an Assistant Coach for a middle school basketball team which won our division and the championship.

I have proven not only to myself, but to everyone around me, that nothing is impossible. My personality, ambitious attitude, courageous outlook, and passion for life set me far above the rest. I will continue to set goals for myself and achieve them no matter how enormous the challenge.

Understanding Health Insurance

A The Health Insurance Marketplace is the place to begin:

Think of the Marketplace as an online travel site like Hotwire or Priceline, where people can compare, view and purchase various health insurance products that have been approved by their state and/or the federal government. You cannot be denied coverage because of a pre-existing condition. In addition, every plan must cover basic health services, including visits to the doctor, hospitalizations, maternity care and prescriptions.

So how do you learn more and access the Marketplace?

Learn about different types of health insurance. Through the Marketplace, you’ll be able to choose a health plan that gives you the right balance of costs and coverage.


Important Dates and Deadlines
Registration-Bursar

Application deadline for Spring 2014 for International F-1 students ..............................................January 15
Last day to receive tuition refunds and withdraw for Winter 2014
100% .............................................................. January 2
50% .............................................................. January 4
25% .............................................................. January 6
Official withdrawal .............................................................. January 9

Last day to receive tuition refunds and withdraw for Spring 1 2014
100% .............................................................. January 27
50% .............................................................. February 3
25% .............................................................. February 10
Official Withdrawal .............................................................. January 9

Last day to receive tuition refunds and withdraw for Spring 2 2014
100% .............................................................. February 14
50% .............................................................. February 19
25% .............................................................. February 26
Official withdrawal .............................................................. April 8

Last day to receive tuition refunds and withdraw for Spring 3 2014
100% .............................................................. March 26
50% .............................................................. April 2
25% .............................................................. April 4
Official Withdrawal .............................................................. April 8

Last day to request Audit status for Winter and Spring 2014
Winter session .............................................................. January 6
Spring 1 ...................................................................... February 11
Spring 2 ...................................................................... February 25
Spring 3 ...................................................................... April 1

The changing climate at BCC…
The Office of Student Affairs is pleased to announce the following office relocations, openings and collaborations to improve student service:

- **Welcome Center and Admissions, A-115**
  Putting the admissions office “front and center” for new students and visitors, the center will feature a presentation room allowing prospective students to gain information on the College.

- **Financial Aid and Registration Center, A-128**
  After joining this summer, financial aid and registration staff members will now be cross-trained to expedite service; the windows will soon receive a facelift as well.

- **Center for Student Success, A-118**
  The center remains the central location for all counseling and advisement.

- **Career and Workforce Development Center, A-123**
  Staffed with career counselors and workforce development representatives, this center prepares students for their next step.

- **Veterans and Military Affairs Center, L-113**
  Dedicated to serving veterans and their beneficiaries in a one-stop environment — including admissions, benefit information, counseling and advising and certification services — the center also provides a space for veterans to meet and have discussion groups.

- **Student Affairs Leadership Suite, L-123**
  This new office provides a single location for the Dean of Student Life and Judicial Affairs, Dean of Student Support Services, Dean of Enrollment Services, Executive Director of Financial Aid and Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs.

- **Web Services, A-128**
  PCs dedicated for student use enable online registration, financial aid updates, grade report printing or transcript requests. The area is staffed full-time.

With these improvements, we are making great strides in supporting and fulfilling the mission of student affairs: to educate and empower students to become responsible life-long learners within a global society.

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**Why Attend Bergen?**

It’s simple. Bergen provides high-quality and affordable education with plenty of opportunities for student engagement through campus activities and student organizations. At Bergen each student is an individual, not a number. That’s the Bergen advantage. Call Admissions and Recruitment at (201) 447-7200 to become a member of the Bergen community.