Grants Office Welcomes New Grant Writer

New to the Office of Grants Administration but not to the College, is grant writer Dr. Drorit Beckman. Dr. Beckman has spearheaded a number of initiatives that have had significant impacts during her five years at the College. She developed the $3.8 million STEM Graduation Pathway to Success program, launched the College’s first science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) conference, the STEM C² Research Summit, and more. We are excited to have her as the newest member of our team and look forward to working with her as she helps support new initiatives at the College.

Drorit can be reached at (201) 689-7646, dbeckman@bergen.edu, or in Office A335A.

New Jersey Space Grant Consortium Community College Support

New Jersey’s needs are thoroughly aligned with NASA’s needs. New Jersey is a high technology state, with industries like pharmaceutical, financial, transportation, construction, and aerospace, all with continuous need for STEM graduates. Led by Rutgers University, we have been selected as a recipient of a 2014 Space Grant Competitive Opportunity for Partnerships with Community Colleges and Technical Schools. The award for this year totals $500,000; Bergen is receiving $150,000.

Building on the strong foundation of shared resources and cooperative programming, the NJSGC will create a regional project that will substantially increase the number of STEM students graduating and transferring to 4-year higher education institutions. This solicitation seeks to:

a) attract/retain more community college and technical college students into STEM-based academic programs;

b) increase educators’ ability to deliver NASA STEM content;

c) create or enhance strategic relationships between the awarded institution and NASA Centers and/or other industry or STEM partners;

d) build capability of the awarded institution to incorporate NASA STEM content into its curricula and course offerings; and

e) increase the number of students that complete their two (2) year Associate’s degree from a community college or technical school and obtain employment in a STEM career;

f) increase the number of community college and technical college STEM graduates and transfers into four-year institutions.

Northern New Jersey Bridge to the Baccalaureate Alliance (B2B)

Led by Passaic Community College, and as with the NJSGC, the B2B’s ultimate goal is to essentially increase the number of STEM students transferring to Garden State Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) and other higher education institutions. The award is funded for 8/15/14-8/15/17 for a total of $260,058; Bergen is receiving $86,686 for year one.

Peer Led Team Learning and Mentoring, Undergraduate Research Experiences, Career Seminars/Transfer Activities, and Summer Bridge Math/science Programs are all planned components of the B2B. This initiative is being led by Dr. Judith Fitzpatrick who can be reached at (201) 493-7521, jfitzpatrick@bergen.edu, or office A325.

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Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI2)

BCC has received a second round of funding from the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. The funding provides support for target hardening and physical security enhancements to organizations located within eligible urban areas.

The grant, which will be funded 09/01/14-08/31/16 for $157,000, will be used to enhance campus security by increasing the capacity of video surveillance equipment purchased with funds received in FY14.

This initiative is being led by William Corcoran, Vice President of Facilities, Planning, Operations and Public Safety, who can be reached at (201) 612-5234 or corcoran@bergen.edu.