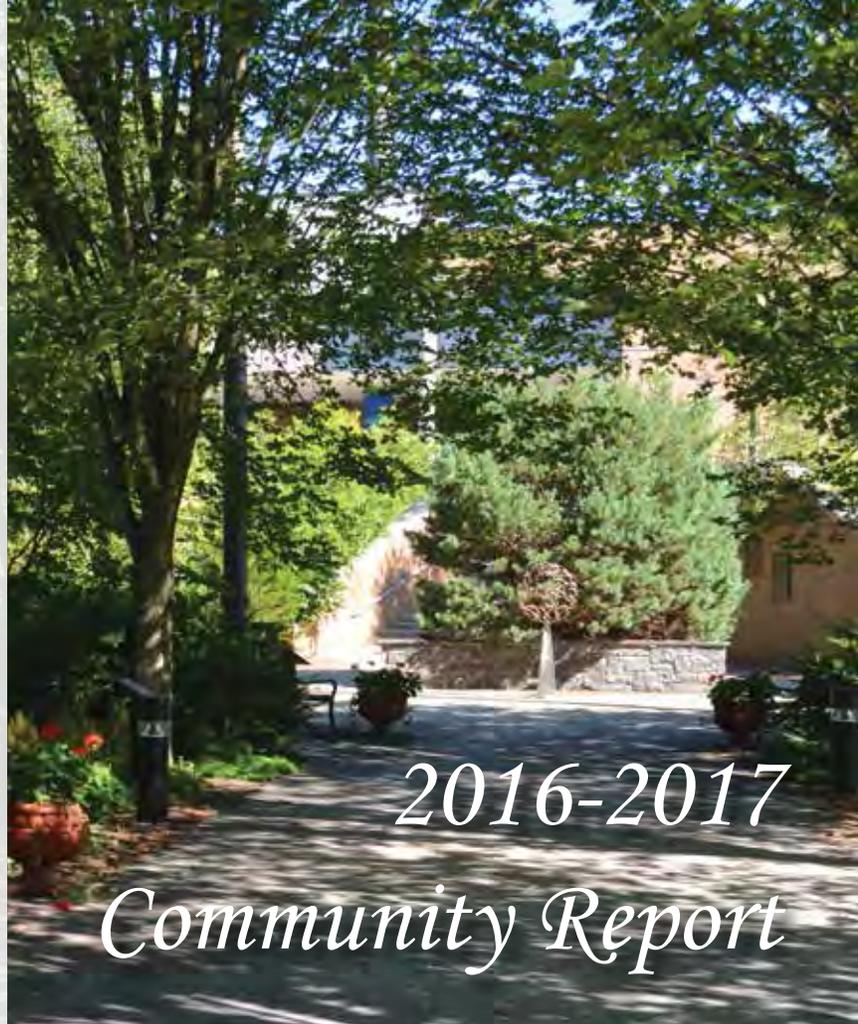


# Year One Report: Toward a Splendid College Strategic Plan 2016-2026

5 goals • 10 priorities • 40 targets

1. At NVCC, students achieve their goals.
2. NVCC faculty and staff make a difference—at the College, in the community, in their fields of study, and in the lives of students.
3. NVCC programs meet and beat academic and industry standards.
4. NVCC is an engine of change within Waterbury, Danbury, and the broader community.
5. NVCC is an effective, performance-based institution.



## Community Report 2016-2017: Changing Lives and Creating Opportunities by Engaging Students and Communities with Knowledge, Love and Care

As academic year 2016-2017 ends, we reflect on the powerful, transformative work undertaken to support a strong present and build a generous future for our beloved NVCC, our students and the communities we serve. It has been a remarkable year both in present achievements and in our ability to engage planning, see progress and have significant facilities openings in the Waterbury and Danbury Campuses. We are making a powerful difference in the lives of our students. We have sustained our completion agenda. Final number of awards granted this academic year will be finalized August 1 but at this time are projected to be around 1,138, more than a thousand awards for the sixth year in a row. Once again we end the year with a balanced budget. At the same time, we had significant achievements that included the opening of the newly renovated Founders Hall, home of our Center for Health Sciences, six months ahead of schedule, and the completion of the campus improvement project. Our Capital Campaign to support furniture and state-of-the-art equipment for our new Center for Health Sciences has met and exceeded its goal. We also had a successful move to larger and beautiful new facilities for our Danbury Campus, a space that has seen student enrollment grow by an average of a little over 10% this year.

Our work, our commitment to mission, and what the college represents for so many is tied to the most beautiful and fundamental democratic principles. In that regard, every decision made always predicated on whether this is something that would support our students, contribute to the communities we serve, and encourage an engaged existence in civic engagement and social justice. We are proud to affirm that our work continues to honor and support a vision of a just and inclusive society. It is in that spirit that we begin, once again, our 2016-2017 Community Report.

Please enjoy this beautiful presentation that summarizes our achievements in so many areas of mutual interest. We are grateful to the communities that have joined our efforts to help our students achieve the American dream, and so very proud to be your community college.

Mil gracias y bendiciones,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D., President  
Naugatuck Valley Community College  
Waterbury-Danbury Campuses



Waterbury • Danbury  
nv.edu

# Building

**Founders Hall** • The Founders Hall Center for Health Sciences opened as the spring 2017 semester began. The entire NVCC Family--students, faculty, staff, Foundation, Regional Advisory Council, alumni, and community leaders, to name only a few--have joined the effort to purchase modern equipment for the Center's top notch Nursing and Allied Health programs. Graduates are hired quickly, responding to the area's growing need for job-ready and caring healthcare professionals. Dr. Peter Jacoby of St. Mary's Hospital is the community champion of the campaign and has brought NVCC in touch with generous corporate and individual donors.



**Danbury Campus** • NVCC's new Danbury Campus location at 190 Main Street officially opened in September. Located in Danbury's downtown district across from the Danbury Public Library, the new space occupies approximately 20,000 square feet--over three times the size of the previous campus.

It accommodates credit and non-credit classes, with substantial capacity to increase enrollment in both areas. The campus offers improved resources for NVCC students including additional classrooms; a large lecture space; computer lab; science labs and prep room; a health lab; a large multipurpose room for tutoring, library services and a seasonal bookstore; a student lounge; and faculty and staff offices.

**Strategic Plan** • NVCC's next strategic plan, Toward a Splendid College, 2016-2026, was unveiled at the September 2016 All-College Meeting. The document is a collaborative effort on the behalf of multiple constituencies at the College, and provides the framework for the next decade with our student-centered goal as the driving force behind the plan.

**Facilities Master Plan** • The College completed its Facilities Master Plan which incorporates NVCC's academic and strategic goals into a comprehensive document to address College needs for physical facilities and support of these goals into the next decade.

**Orientation** • In January NVCC held the first spring new student orientation at the Danbury Campus. Students were provided an opportunity to purchase their textbooks at the Danbury Campus on select days thanks to the support of Follett. Book purchasing at the Danbury campus will continue on select days to continue to support students.



**International Center for the Arts** • AY 2016-2017 was another powerful year for the arts at NVCC with the launch of the International Center for the Arts (ICA) celebration on April 17. The ICA was a day-long celebration of the multicultural influences in and around Waterbury, culminating in the presentation of

Felipe Karam's Fulbright Legacy Project. In addition to the ICA, four Confluencias, a writer's conference, three theater productions, art exhibitions and multiple dance and music performances were held throughout the year.



**Technology** • IT installed seven new smart classrooms and renovated six existing smart classrooms, replaced 150 staff and faculty computers, donated 250 PCs to local non-profit agencies, deployed a new wireless network and supported the Danbury Campus and Founders Hall construction projects.

**Danbury Enrollment** • The Danbury Campus reached another record this year, with enrollment over 1,000 students for the third time. Spring 2017 enrollment in Danbury increased 14% from last spring.

**Campus Improvements** • The campus-wide improvement project is complete. Improvements include sidewalks for the campus and a sidewalk to Chase Parkway; a new LED street lighting system; reconstruction of two parking lots; repaving and realignment of the East Entrance; and construction of a landscaped pedestrian walkway from Technology Hall to Founders Hall.

Shelter-in-place door hardware has been installed in all classrooms on both campuses. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) room sign project is substantially complete.



# Outcomes

**Advancing Opportunities** • In September 2016, the U.S. Department of Education announced that NVCC is among the top 25 community colleges nationwide that advance opportunities for low-income students. Colleges were ranked by their effectiveness in serving low-income students with relatively high outcomes.

**Student Success** • NVCC Allied Health licensure and certification pass rates for the class of 2016 continued to demonstrate the strength of the College's programs. Results above the national average were reported with 100% pass rates for the Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care and Physical Therapy Assistant programs, and a 94% pass rate for the Nursing Program.

**Manufacturing** • The Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center (AMTC) reports 100% full-time job placement for its December 2016 certificate recipients from the Waterbury evening cohort. It is anticipated that 100% of the Waterbury daytime cohort graduates will be placed into full-time positions following completion of the program in May. The Danbury program (CAMI) had its first cohort graduate in December 2016.

**Tutoring** • The Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) launched a student referral program, providing faculty with a mechanism to identify students who require additional academic assistance and refer them to the ACE.

**Fiscally Sound** • NVCC finished fiscal year 2016 in the black and increased the unrestricted net assets of the College to \$4.8 million.

NVCC will again finish fiscal year 2017 with a balanced budget and will maintain a positive UNA for the eighth year in a row.

**Bus Service** • Evening bus service for the campus and the City of Waterbury advocated by NVCC and initiated in October 2011, has continued to grow. As of March 31, 2017, students using the UPASS (unlimited, free bus transportation for registered students) have taken approximately 706,110 day and evening rides. Over 1,245,594 Waterbury residents have utilized evening bus service. Over 8,860 UPASSES were distributed to NVCC students through AY 2016-2017. The Student Government Association voted during the Spring 2015 semester to offer UPASS benefits to Danbury Campus students and to support a public bus between the Waterbury and Danbury campuses. Students and NVCC staff celebrated the inaugural Danbury UPASS bus ride in October 2015, with over 250 passes issued between then and December 2016. The College has also implemented a plan with the Peter Pan company to provide bus services between Danbury and Waterbury.

**Industry Summits** • The College has held six of the seven planned industry sector summits in the areas of Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology (Cybersecurity), Allied Health (Surgical Technology), Bioscience, Financial Services, and Horticulture & Hospitality. All summits bring together business and academia to support the relevant curriculum that serves the needs of employers in our region and prepares students for careers.



# For Students

**Graduate Success** • NVCC became the first community college in CT to award a total of more than 1,000 associate degrees and certificates in 2012. This achievement will be reached for the sixth year in a row in 2017 when the College once again expects to confer more than 1,000 awards at commencement on May 25, 2017. Since Academic Year 2007-2008, the College has seen a 136% increase in the total number of awards, a 135% increase in the number of male graduates and a 465% increase in Hispanic student graduates.

**Financial Aid** • The NVCC Financial Aid Office has awarded approximately \$21,974,147 to date for the 2016-2017 aid year. For AY 2016-2017, 2,592 web-based installment plans were established worth \$2.67 million in tuition and fees.

**Student Jobs** • NVCC's Student Jobs on Campus (SJOC) continues to provide employment opportunities to NVCC students throughout the year at both the Waterbury and the Danbury campus. Between SJOC, Work Study and the expanded Work Study Pilot, the College employs more than 100 students throughout both campuses.

**Registration** • First early registration was piloted this fall which provided students with 30+ credits at the start of the fall semester the opportunity to register a week prior to the start of our official registration kick off date.

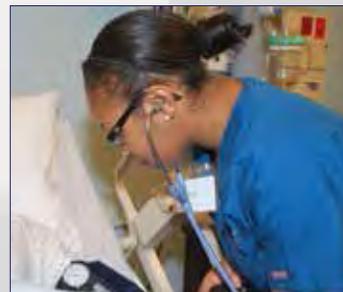
**Degree Works** • After more than a year of planning, scribing, testing, training, etc. on the part of the implementation

team at NVCC, Degree Works is here! Multiple training workshops have been held during March and April for faculty and staff advisors, student workers in Student Services and our student body whereby the features and flexibility of Degree Works/SEP (Student Educational Plans) were shared along with how to run a degree evaluation. Initial feedback has been phenomenal from both the faculty/staff advisors and the students. Workshops will continue throughout the remainder of the academic year, summer and into the fall.

**Open House** • The fifth annual College Open House was held on April 23 with approximately 375 individuals in attendance. In addition to this event, on April 24 NVCC hosted a GEAR-UP College Open House in which more than 200 GEAR-UP students from Waterbury area high schools attended.

**Clery Report** • The annual campus crime report (Clery) was published on October 1, 2016, showing that NVCC continues to be a safe environment for our campus community with no reportable crimes.

**Web Redesign** • The NVCC website "face lift" is underway. The web redesign and reorganization team has been hard at work for many months preparing for an extensive upgrade to our current website. The new site will showcase all of the opportunities NVCC has to offer to those seeking to continue their academic studies, highlight the successes of our students, faculty and staff both on campus and beyond and celebrate the diversity and richness of the NVCC community.



# Collaborating



**Mentoring** • Academic Year (AY) 2016-2017 marks the first year of NVCC's partnership with the Hispanic Federation to implement the CREAR/Futuros initiative connecting NVCC student mentors to NVCC student mentees in support of retention and completion. Mentors are hired and paid by the Hispanic Federation under a \$30,000 grant they received to support this initiative.

**Scholarships** • NVCC was provided an opportunity from the Fairfield County Community Foundation, Pascualano Transfer Scholarship Initiative to offer two graduating female students a scholarship award of \$5,000 each, per year, for two years, to transfer to an accredited four-year institution to continue their academic studies.

**High Schools** • Through CT-DECO, NVCC's Early College partnership with Danbury High School (DHS), New Oak and Pitney Bowes, more than 62 DHS sophomore students (cohort 1) are taking courses with NVCC for college credit. This fall, cohort 2 students will enter their sophomore year at DHS and begin taking courses. Between the two cohorts there are more than 150 DHS students participating in CT-DECO.

The Dual Pell Experiment provided the opportunity to 23 CT-DECO students, who completed the FAFSA process and were eligible for aid, to take public speaking during the spring 2017 semester.

**Fulbright Scholar** • NVCC hosted its third Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence this year. Felipe Karam, a music scholar from Brazil, taught courses at NVCC and worked with Bravo Waterbury!, the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra's youth-focused community music and personal growth program.

**Manufacturing and Technology Expo** • The STEM Division and the AMTC collaborated with the Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce to host the Chamber's Manufacturing and Technology Expo for more than 300 students from area high schools and middle schools.

**Leadership Breakfast** • Colleagues from Academic Affairs provided informative and engaging presentations on TAP, mSI (modified supplemental instruction) and collaboration between our Learning Resource Center and Waterbury Public Schools during the annual Greater Waterbury Educational Leadership breakfast.



During AY 2016-2017, the Center for Teaching (CFT) hosted more than 25 workshops/

discussions, as well as three faculty learning communities, Narrative Teaching groups and multiple book clubs.

**Job Placement** • The Center for Job Placement and College Opportunities (CJPCO) Career Fair hosted 44 employers and more than 450 students attended. The CJPCO has also expanded their need-blind transfer initiative to target students who are prepared to make the transition to a selective college or university.



**SNAP** • NVCC's Community and Economic Development (CED) Office successfully launched the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance and Education Training Program (SNAP) this spring, with 15 students currently engaged in non-credit job training programs and six that have successfully completed a certificate program. Credit students will be registering in the next few months.

**Literacy** • NVCC once again participated in a "One Book, One College" initiative during AY 2016- 2017. *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore was required reading for all First Year Experience (FYE) students with many other students, faculty and staff participating in the common read. Executive Director of the Greater Waterbury YMCA and NVCC Foundation member Jim O'Rourke was the keynote speaker at the annual One Book Lecture, "Illuminate the Crucial Inflection Points."

NVCC and the Literacy Volunteers of Greater Waterbury co-sponsored a book discussion of *A Cafecito Story*, by Julia Alvarez, in October. President De Filippis moderated this powerful discussion about families and traditions; more than 50 students and staff from NVCC, the Literacy Volunteers and Prince Technical High School were in attendance.

The Max R. Traurig Library completed their migration to the new CSU Libraries system-wide catalog and search interface, which will allow students, staff, and faculty to search for and borrow items from the 12 Community Colleges, 4 Connecticut State Universities, and the Connecticut State Library.

**Bridge to College** • NVCC continued its powerful collaboration with the City of Waterbury during the fifth year of the GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) grant. An \$11.2-million grant program, GEAR UP engages 2,300 tenth and eleventh grade students during and after school to improve their likelihood of college completion.

**Grants** • In May 2017, NVCC and the Bridge to College Office were notified by the U.S. Department of Education that our three Upward Bound grant applications to increase collaborations between NVCC and Crosby, Kennedy, and Wilby high schools in Waterbury, have been selected for funding at \$257,500 each, per year, for an annual total of \$772,500, grants to be renewed for up to five years.

# For Excellence

**Honors** • President De Filippis was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in the Humanities by the University of Santo Domingo (UASD) on October 6, 2016. The UASD conferred the honorary degree in recognition of the President's contribution to Dominican, Caribbean and Dominican Diaspora literature.

President De Filippis was also honored by Eugenio María de Hostos Community College as the 2017 Educator of the Year at their annual Scholarship Benefit on May 5.

Burton Tedesco, Assistant Professor of Theater, was selected as NVCC's nominated recipient of the Board of Regents Scholarly Excellence Award in recognition of his exceptional scholarly work befitting the community college mission.

The Waterbury Sportsmen's Club honored NVCC as the Organization of the Year at their 43rd Annual Awards dinner on April 9, 2017.

NVCC's student newspaper, *The Tamarack*, received seven awards in the collegiate division at the 2017 Connecticut Society of Professional Journalists' Excellence in Journalism Awards ceremony.

**Community Support** • In August 2016, a group of students and staff traveled to New Jersey as part of Habitat for Humanity for the third year in a row to help rebuild a home damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

For the eighth year in a row, the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen stayed open on Sundays and holidays, an effort

led by the Hispanic Student Union to prepare and serve meals, through the financial support of Webster Bank.

**STEM Success** • NVCC once again hosted the Girls in STEM and "Women in Science" events this spring. NVCC students and GEAR UP 10th and 11th graders participated in faculty led STEM workshops. Distinguished female speakers from our community and business partners spoke to students on the wide variety of professional careers that are possible for women in science.

Dr. Peter Angelastro, STEM Division Director, presented a talk titled "A Community College's Perspective on Participation in a Space Grant Consortium" at the Northeast Regional Space Grant Meeting in October 2016.

**Civic Engagement** • NVCC students continued their proud tradition of civic engagement at the State Capitol. In February 2017, NVCC students traveled to Hartford to speak out on behalf of the College and against the proposed cuts to higher education. In April, students traveled by bus to Hartford to represent NVCC during CSCU Day at the Capitol.

The Workforce Achievers Value Education (W.A.V.E.) Program entered its 13th year at the college. The program, funded by The Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, provides support and guidance to students as they transition to post-secondary education. W.A.V.E has worked with about 150 students, achieving an 89% graduation rate in 12 years.

