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Connections

EOF

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS & PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A SECURE FUTURE.

THE SPRING 2020 TERM IS HERE... WELCOME!

Dear EOF *Scholars*



By now, you should be well settled in your classes and back into the swing of things after a nice, long winter break. We are glad to see you so many of you back, jumping right into your studies. For all our new scholars who began with us late fall and this spring, welcome to our family. We hope you find the EOF program to be your ultimate resource navigating CCM and reassuring your college success. As I look back to last fall, I did want to take this moment to recognize some major accomplishments. We had our largest group of 40 EOF scholars making our Honor Roll with a 3.0 or higher GPA – we are so proud of you! Additionally, we had a number of scholars who graduated this past fall and are planning on transferring to various NJ colleges and universities, including Bloomfield College, Rutgers, College of St. Elizabeth, amongst others. Lastly, our EOF program at CCM received an important recognition by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) www.naspa.org, as a 2019-2020 Silver Award Winner in the First-generation Student Success and related programs category for our work in supporting our scholars. This is a testament to YOU our students and our amazing EOF staff, who



works so hard each day to reassure your college success.

As you continue your classes this term, I do want to remind you of a few important things:

- ✂ State deadline for financial aid 2020-2021 is on April 15, 2020. Make sure you have completed your FAFSA application by then www.fafsa.ed.gov to avoid any delays. Additionally, check your CCM and personal emails regularly in case you are selected for state or federal verification. This requires a student to provide additional information in order for their aid to clear. If you need help with this process, see an EOF staff member.
- ✂ If you are graduating this Spring or Summer 2020, make sure to meet with your EOF counselor and take care of all your transfer needs, including sending your EOF transfer form (if you’re transferring to a NJ college/university), so that you are considered as an EOF student at one of our four-year institutions.
- ✂ Do you have a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA and you are graduating this Spring or Summer? Apply for the Casey Vreeland EOF Transfer Scholarship



BAD WEATHER

COMMUNICATION METHODS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Titan Alert System is now in effect, notifications will come exclusively through Titan communication system.

- ◆ Titan Alert. Alerts will be forwarded to your CCM email account, and any additional contact points, including personal email, phone calls and text messaging. For more information about Titan Alert, go to <http://www.ccm.edu/titanalert.aspx>.
 - ◆ Check the CCM website at www.ccm.edu.
 - ◆ If you never received Titan Alert, call the emergency information number 973-328-5580.
- The college makes every effort to communicate closing or delayed opening information as soon as possible.

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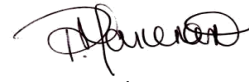
SPRING 2020 WELCOME—(CONTINUED)

- 📅 Spring or Summer? Apply for the Casey Vreeland EOF Transfer Scholarship - \$250, which will be granted to one graduating EOF scholar during our awards dinner. See your counselor for an application. Deadline is March 3rd.
- 📅 Save The Date – EOF Awards Dinner & Tricky Tray Fundraiser – Thursday, April 23, 2020. We will be celebrating YOUR academic accomplishments for the year. This is your night, you can bring up to two guests. An invite should arrive in the next few weeks.

- 📅 Progress reports are coming in now. See how you are doing in your classes and let's strategize a plan that will secure your success.
- 📅 Summer registration is now open, if you are interested in taking classes, see your EOF counselor first. You should receive our EOF summer funding request letter in the mail in the incoming days. If interested in being considered for EOF summer funding deadline to submit form to Ms. Moss is March 25th.

Continue to keep up the good work. Stay connected, ask for help if you need it

and use ALL your EOF and campus resources to secure your college success. See you around the office!



Dr. Pamela Marcenaro
Dean, Learning Support & Opportunity Services



**KEEP
CALM
AND ROCK
SPRING
SEMESTER!**

EOF SENIOR SPOTLIGHT—*Melissa Lapinski*



rolling at C.C.M. Every staff member in the E.O.F office has helped me in so many academic, personal, and professional aspects of my life. The program has believed in me since day one, even when I didn't believe I would be able to be a successful student. I definitely attribute the E.O.F program as a main component to my success at C.C.M.

When I started to believe in myself and see I was capable of achieving academic success at C.C.M it was like a snowball effect giving me the strength and desire to do the best I could academically. During my time at C.C.M I have faced many life challenges ranging from near death to having a baby at the age of 39. Through all of life's trials and tribulations, the support I received from the E.O.F program has given me the ability to remain academically successful. Being a role model for my 4 daughters also has motivated me to never give up no matter what.

Approaching graduation I would say my most important asset is the fact that I believe in myself. My experience at C.C.M has proved to me that whatever I put my mind to I know I can achieve. All of the skills I have learned here have strengthened my self esteem and will allow me to be successful in the field of social work.

Some memorable moments I have with E.O.F are being president of the E.O.F Alliance club and all of the amazing work we do helping people, participating in

the E.O.F mentor program and the amazing award dinners that allowed me to celebrate my accomplishments.

My plans after graduation are to attend Rutgers Newark to get my Bachelor's degree in Human Services. Also to continue to work on social issues close to my heart like the opioid epidemic, and homelessness.

My message I would give to a future E.O.F student is to get involved in this amazing program. I began to grow as a person and academically when I began to get involved in E.O.F. and I utilized all the resources available to me. Keep communication with your counselor and let them know where you are at so they can help you. The E.O.F program offers so much support but you need to let them know what's going on so they can help you. You are never alone in E.O.F, they are family!

Accomplishments: Phi Theta Kappa, National Society for Leadership and Success, Dean's List, Received 2 C.C.M scholarships, E.O.F Alliance president, 2 years

E.O.F has played a huge part in my time at County College Of Morris. Coming back to school after 25 years at the age of 38 was a challenge to say the least. I received my G.E.D at the age of 16 and struggled with learning disabilities, A.D.H.D and mental illness. I had just been through some difficult years being a mother of 3 and struggled with addiction. Deciding to come back to school was very scary and E.O.F was responsible for supporting me in every aspect of transitioning into this new endeavor for me. They treated me with such grace and did not judge me based on my struggles I had faced prior to en-



Class
of 2020

FALL 2019 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT HONOR ROLL!!

***THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAVE ACHIEVED ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE FOR THE FALL 2019 SEMESTER!***

<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>SEMESTER</u>	<u>CUMULATIVE</u>
1. John Gindhart	4.000	4.000
2. Dajah McGowan	4.000	3.443
3. Mariana Atehortua-Ospina	4.000	3.020
4. Catalina Castelan	3.924	3.631
5. Diana Figueroa	3.693	3.042
6. Jane-Roz Abbe	3.687	3.687
7. Hannah Melio	3.667	3.667
8. Monica Revell	3.666	3.666
9. Essence Johnson	3.665	3.025
10. Sohier Abdelfattah	3.601	2.960
11. Shakirah Porter	3.418	3.264
12. Maricris Flores	3.385	2.976
13. Miatta Golafaly	3.333	2.739
14. Andrea Argueta	3.332	3.532
15. Megan Maute	3.250	3.250
16. Daniela Arevalo-Perez	3.220	3.733
17. Mar Jan Fernando Atienza	3.200	3.489
18. Melissa Lapinski	3.110	3.592
19. Marita Lathowska	3.000	3.454
20. Bishop Sally	3.000	2.600
21. Amira Wilkins	3.802	3.802
22. Daniel Herrera-Lasso	3.750	3.749
23. Nathalia Duque	3.744	3.744
24. Yuliana Arenazas	3.665	3.250
25. Kemyardely Zephyr	3.591	3.591
26. Joshua Blackwell	3.540	3.540
27. Abdulmalik Ahmedi	3.500	2.915
28. Amy Betancowith	3.462	3.462
29. Peter Geruntho	3.443	2.646
30. Tamara Rivera	3.415	3.415
31. Andrea Serrano Trujillo	3.410	3.621
32. Luis Velasquez-Rodriguez	3.333	3.376
33. Angela Bonilla Moreno	3.333	3.333
34. Carly Jameson	3.231	3.355
35. Yamil Bernard Hiciano	3.167	3.125
36. Devin Murray	3.113	3.085
37. Zaira Martinez-Cid	3.083	3.083
38. Nida Albazari	3.000	2.340
39. Diana Faveras	3.000	3.365
40. Lourene Oseguera	3.000	2.820

EOF STUDENT ALLIANCE UPDATE!

The EOF Student Alliance Kick-Off was attended by 8 students, and Melissa Lapinski will continue to be the President. (Shakirah Porter, Co-President last semester graduated in December.) During that meeting, we discussed the Tricky Tray fundraiser, collecting items or gift cards from student's employers or merchants they patronize. The new club rooms are done in the SCC and now we have to reapply to get a space in it. For now, scheduled meetings will be in CH 160.



Students staffed the EOF Alliance table at the Campus Life Welcome Bash Fair on Feb. 4; supplying popcorn, EOF information, and getting sign-ups for the Alliance. Thank you to Nieasia Wilkins and Michael Gonzalez who volunteered to help! We received many inquiries about EOF and the Alliance.

The Teddy Bear Donation table at the Teddy Bear Factory in the SCC lobby was Feb. 13. Natalia, Jaison and Deeyton helped make bears that were donated. Many others donated bears and we collected the most ever, 22 stuffed animals! They will be given to children at the Goryeb Children's Hospital at a later date. Some bears need some sewing repair of



their tummies, if anyone can assist, see Edie.

All EOF scholars are asked to help our Annual EOF Tricky Tray fundraiser. Here are some ways to help- consider donating a new item, such as a water bottle, travel mug, ceramic planter, candle, bath sets, or another way to help is to ask a local business to donate a gift card or service***. Perhaps your employer might? We have gotten gift cards from Shop-Rite, Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts and many others in the past. This is our big fundraiser to help supply our funds for student book loans, emergency loans, honor society fees and more! All donations must be new and in original wrapping. If you have something you want to donate, please sign up on the sheet on the counter in EOF. We will WRAP our donated items in baskets on MARCH 26. Plan to assist for community service hours. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!



*NOTE*** When asking local merchants for donations, bring the Merchant Letter with you (available on main table in EOF) which explains the EOF Program and how these funds are used. Be an ambassador for EOF! Most businesses are happy to give something. Examples: Hair Salons donating a certificate for a hair service, accountants have donated a tax prep service, and Star-*

bucks has donated a mug, coffee and gift card]

Community service hours given for ALL your time asking for donations or for donating something yourself. We need everyone's help to make this a successful fundraiser! All donations need to be in EOF by MARCH 13. Our all-day Tricky Tray event is on Thurs, April 2, when we will need many volunteers to sell tickets, 10-3. Any free time you have on that Thursday would be great!! Mark your calendar!



Upcoming Alliance meeting dates are: 2/7, 12:30-1:00 pm in CH 160, 3/12 12:30 in CH 160, 3/26 in EOF to wrap baskets for Tricky Tray, 4/2 Tricky Tray Day- help sell tickets, 10-3 in SCC lobby, and 4/9 in CH 160, and 5/7. (We may have a luncheon on this last date). Be sure to attend our Awards dinner on April 23 where we will also sell Tricky Tray tickets just prior to the start of the dinner from 5-6.



WORKSHOPS

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Thursday, February 27 12:30 PM	How to Use Titan Direct	Cohen Hall, Room CH 203
Monday, March 2 12:30 PM	Test Taking Strategies	Cohen Hall, Room CH 203
Monday, March 2 3:30 PM—5:00 PM	Do Your Best When You're Unstressed	Cohen Hall, Room CH 100
Tuesday, March 3 12:30 PM—1:45 PM	Reduce Worry & Anxiety* <i>And learn Relaxation Techniques</i>	Cohen Hall, Room CH 210
Wednesday, March 4 10:00 AM—3:00 PM	Spring Ahead on Your FAFSA!* <i>Bring your documents & get help in EOF!</i>	EOF Office, Cohen Hall, Room CH 211
Tuesday, March 10 2:00 PM	Time Management <i>How much do you procrastinate?</i>	Cohen Hall, Room CH 203
Wednesday, March 11 12:30 PM—1:45 PM	Live Your Best Life... FINANCIALLY!*	Cohen Hall, Room CH 255

* Door Prize & Giveaways

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Wednesday, March 25 2:00 PM—4:00 PM	Transfer Fair—Set up) <i>(Sign up in Counseling)</i>	Student Community Center Davidson Rooms SCC 118
Thursday, March 26 11:00 AM—1:00 PM	Help Wrap Gift Baskets for Tricky Tray <i>(Sign up in EOF)</i>	EOF Office, Cohen Hall Room CH 211

SAVE THE DATE

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND ANNUAL AWARDS & RECOGNITION DINNER CEREMONY



SCC—Davidson Rooms
Thurs. April 23, 2020



6:00 pm

Tricky Tray Fundraiser ticket sale will take place prior to Awards Dinner from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the Davidson Rooms. Winning tickets will be selected at the beginning of the program.



February Is Black History Month 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
23	24	25	26	27 <small>How to Use Titan Direct 12:30 PM, CH 203</small>	28	29
March 1	2 <small>Test Taking Strategies 12:30 PM, CH 203</small>	3 <small>Do Your Best When You're Stressed 3:30 PM, CH 100</small>	4 <small>Reduce Worry & Anxiety 12:30 PM, CH 210</small>	5 <small>Spring Ahead on Your FAFSA! 10:00AM, CH 211</small>	6	7

COUNSELOR'S CLIPBOARD

Important Dates

- 💡 Have you seen your EOF Counselor in the past few weeks? If not, schedule an appointment **TODAY!**
- 💡 First Progress Reports are coming in! Be sure to see yours.
- 💡 Schedule weekly tutoring sessions if you are in Basic Math, Intermediate Algebra, Writing Skills and Science Courses. (See your counselor for details). The Tutoring Center is in DeMare Hall, Room DH 156. Schedule tutoring sessions online. See information on bulletin board.
- 💡 **Wednesday, March 4—Spring Ahead on Your FAFSA—Get Help in EOF, 10:00 AM—3:00 PM. (Deadline is April 15!!)**

**“I would like to be known as a person who is concerned about freedom and equality and justice and prosperity for all people.” —
*Rosa Parks***