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Connections

EOF

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


WRAPPING UP THE FALL SEMESTER...GETTING READY FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON!!!

To Our EOF Scholars,


 Can you believe it? Yes, the Fall semester is almost over, just like that! We know finals are around the corner, so lots of studying, assignments and projects due in the next few days. Be proud of all you have accomplished this last semester. For our new scholars, think about when you started and where you are today. By the end of December, you have officially completed your first semester of college; what a milestone! For our returning students, another one done...putting you just one semester closer to graduation. I know some of you are on that final term, so this is an exciting time, as you think ahead with your next steps in the college transfer process or if you are going right into the workforce. As you close the year, think back on everything you did, what worked, what you could have been done better, what you want to continue doing, and maybe, some changes you will want to make when you return in January.



The EOF Team will be here to support you and will continue to provide you with assistance, guidance and opportunities during the spring to assure your success. Like we did this past Fall, we will offer

 you valuable workshops, information sessions, activities and community service opportunities throughout campus. Our EOF Alliance will have a well-rounded college experience at CCM! As you get ready to leave for the semester, make sure to come in, see your EOF counselor, register for spring, complete your financial aid – FAFSA application for AY/2020-2021, as the state’s renewal financial aid deadline will be here before you know it, April 15th. Remember, the longer you wait to do your financial aid, the more stressful it can become, as you may be pulled for verification and asked to provide additional information in order to get your funding (EOF, TAG, CCOG and/or PELL grants). We are available to support you throughout this process, so come in and ask for assistance!



 As I close the year, personally, I would like to commend all of you for your hard work and dedication towards your academics. I am very proud of each and every one of you. If the semester was great, keep up the good work. If you think it wasn't as great

as you wanted it to be, that's ok too...let's figure out what we need to do together to reassure your success. I am committed in supporting you throughout your college journey.



ATTENTION! As a reminder, CCM will be closed from Saturday, 12/21 – Sunday, 1/5. We will be back in the office on Monday, January 6, 2020. If you need help after the New Year, stop by the office, during our regular office hours. The Spring 2020 semester begins on Wednesday, 1/22/2020.

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy holiday season. May you take this time to relax and enjoy your friends and family and get a well-deserved break.



Sincerely,

Dr. Pamela Marcenaro, Dean of Learning Support & Opportunity Services



EOF SENIOR SPOTLIGHT—*Shakirah Porter*



The EOF program has played a major role within my academic, personal, as well as my professional development. EOF has provided me with “Opportunities” that wouldn’t be granted if I had not been a part of their program. Those opportunities and openings for professional mentorship which helped to guide and prepare me towards future endeavors in today’s work world. Also, through their one on one peer tutoring and workshops it has granted me a heightened aptitude of personal development. As a Human Service

Major, EOF permitted me to fulfill my passion for helping people by working with so many different community services. This confirmed to me my aspiration and life purpose within the helping career. “This is my purpose.”

One of two inspirations that encouraged me toward my academic success and professional growth is my son and my mom. Being a single parent is my most important job assignment; it has taught me to prob-

lem-solve by observation, empathy and setting boundaries. I learned from many of life’s hard lessons to endure hardships through active listening. Not to mention my mother’s goal in life, which she has instilled in me; the notion that a good education, is a frontier where you can go to infinity and beyond gaining ground to be self-sufficient. Both of these factors has given me the self-determination to succeed.

Now that graduation is approaching shortly I have developed many bene-

ficial skills that will aid in my success. I have learned, in today’s corporate world, it requires an outstanding work ethic, dependability and a special compassion for people.

There were so many memorable moments however; some of my favorite moments is just walking in the office saying good morning with a smile and enjoying the brief conversations- it was like checking in with my family. (This I will truly miss).

My plans after graduating is to attend Rutgers University to receive my Bachelors and later a Masters in Social Work. Eventually, I would like to open my own practice.

The message, I would like to leave with current and future EOF students, is everyone in the EOF office is planting a seed towards your academic, personal, and professional growth. I advise you to stay connected and watch how much you flourish!

Again, EOF has been more than just an office in Cohen Hall; EOF is family!



“Real education should consist of drawing the goodness and the best out of our own students. What better books can there be than the book of humanity.” - Cesar Chavez

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS

Need Help Completing Your [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) or [NJ Alternative Application for NJ Dreamers?](#)

Two weeks only! Appointments are required!!

Monday, January 20, 2020 through Friday, January 31, 2020

***Special Saturday Session* Limited seats available: January 18, 2020: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm**
Henderson Hall Room HH-114 (Computer Lab)

The Financial Aid Office will be conducting Financial Aid workshops to assist students in submitting the 2020-2021 or the 2019-2020 FAFSA and the NJ State Alternative Application. The completion of the [FAFSA](#) or the [NJ Alternative Application](#) is required of all students who plan to utilize financial aid to help them meet their educational expenses. This may include Federal/State Grants including the [Community College Opportunity Grant](#), Loans and Institutional Scholarships.

Financial aid advisors will be available to help guide students and their parents through the process!

Appointments are required!

Schedule your appointment: Monday/Thursday from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM or Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

****Space is extremely limited** (1 guest only) **the student must be present if a parent attends**** **REGISTER NOW!**

BE PREPARED FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT:

1. Create an FSA ID# (fsaid.ed.gov) **prior** to the appointment - (need help contact 1-800-433-3243)
2. Know your Social Security Number and your Alien Registration Number (if you are an eligible non-citizen)
3. Bring all parts of the 2017 and 2018 Federal Income Tax Return including W2, 1099 and other records of money earned
4. Bring most recent bank statements & records of investments (if applicable)
5. In-Kind Support- (If you did not work in 2017 or 2018) Provide the annual monies received or bills paid on your behalf
6. Bring records of untaxed income such as Social Security/Unemployment income/benefit statements and child support received for all members of the household for the 2017, 2018 and 2019 year

**** If you are under 24 years old, you will need the above information for your parents too****

Let us help you help yourself!

(Workshops are open to County College of Morris' new and continuing students)

EOF Tutoring Rewards!

Cards are due back to EOF by December 18, 2019. Late cards are welcome for our records to track tutoring but ineligible for rewards.



EOF at CCM Rewards Program

When studying pays you back!

At some point, everyone in college will need help in their classes. Be proactive and always use tutoring as an important tool in your academic success.

Now you can be rewarded!

IT'S THAT EASY!

Improve your GPA & boost your self-confidence!

REWARDS

- 15+ card punches — \$25 CCM Bookstore gift certificate & 1 free lunch
- 11-14 card punches — 2 free lunches
- 7 - 10 card punches — 1 free lunch

This is your tutoring tracker. Keep a record of your tutoring appointments and be rewarded. Must be returned by end of Semester!

DECEMBER—2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
15	16	17	18 <i>Semester Ends</i>	19 <i>Winterim 4-week begins</i>	20	21 <i>FIRST day of Winter</i>
22	23 <i>Campus Closed</i>	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26 <i>Kwanzaa</i>	27	28
29	30 <i>Campus Closed</i>	31	Jan. 1 <i>Happy New Year</i>	Jan. 2	Jan. 3	Jan. 4
Jan. 5	Jan. 6 <i>College Reopens</i>	Jan. 7	Jan. 8	Jan. 9	Jan. 10	Jan. 11

Classes Begin Wednesday, January 22!

COUNSELOR'S CLIPBOARD

IMPORTANT DATES

- 📅 **TODAY**—You can start your new 20-21 FAFSA.
- 📅 **Thursday December 19**—Winterim 4-Week Begins.
- 📅 **Monday, January 6**—Winterim 2-Week Begins.
- 📅 **Wednesday, January 22**—Spring Semester Begins. (Classes begin – full semester classes, Early Start 2-week and Early Finish 7-week classes.)
- 📅 **Tuesday, January 28**—Last day to DROP classes without Academic Grade Full Semester classes only.



EO7 wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday. We hope this holiday season brings you peace, joy and merriment with your family & friends!

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE FINALS

By frozenflan on December 23, 2013



*T*was the night before finals, in the dorms they all sat
Not a student was partying, not even the frat.
The books all piled up to the top of the room,
Only 12 hours left 'till they head to their doom.

*T*he freshmen were cramming it all in their heads,
Not a single Facebook status was left unread.
My roommate in her pj's, and I in my slacks,
Trying to find a way to relax.

*W*hen out in the hallway there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the chair to see what was the matter.
I opened the door to a delightful surprise,
My friends were leaving to get burgers and fries.

I said to myself, "It's early enough,
And studying while hungry can be a bit rough."
So, I put on my coat and I put on my shoes,
And we went to get food, some snacks, and some booze.

*A*fter a ride into town, and a little bit of fun,
I came back to my room, a quarter past one.
Less than eight hours to go before my exam,
And three different subjects for me to cram!

I grabbed my first book and as I sat on my desk,
I said, "There's no way I can work in this mess!"
So hyped up on sugar and lots of caffeine,
I put down the books 'till the room was all clean.

I looked at my clock and saw it was three,
I cried, "How could this happen to me?"
"I really hope they offer extra credit!"
Is what I posted on Twitter and Reddit.

*A*nd then, with a buzzing, I felt in my pants,
I just got a Snapchat from my buddy in France.
He was studying abroad and his finals were done,
He sent me a pic going down a ski run.

*D*epressed and distraught, I went back to my book,
It was an e-version that I bought for my Nook.
The miniscule font was driving me insane,
And searching for the settings proved to be a pain.

*F*raught with pure anger and in such disarray,
I did the unthinkable and tossed my e-reader away!
It hit my left bedpost which cracked the display.
I let out a sigh. "This just isn't my day."

*T*hough tired and stressed, I still studied some more,
while trying to drown out my roommate's snore.
Ticking and tocking teased that damn clock,
As if poking fun at my mental block.

*B*ut I studied and studied every chapter and section,
Memorized my terms to the point of perfection.
There was really no more I could do to prepare,
But to show up to class with a hope and a prayer.

*L*ater that morning, I sprang out of class,
With a skip in my step, with a notion I passed.
"What do we do now?" asked my friends in delight.
"Well, my finals are over, so to all a good-night!"