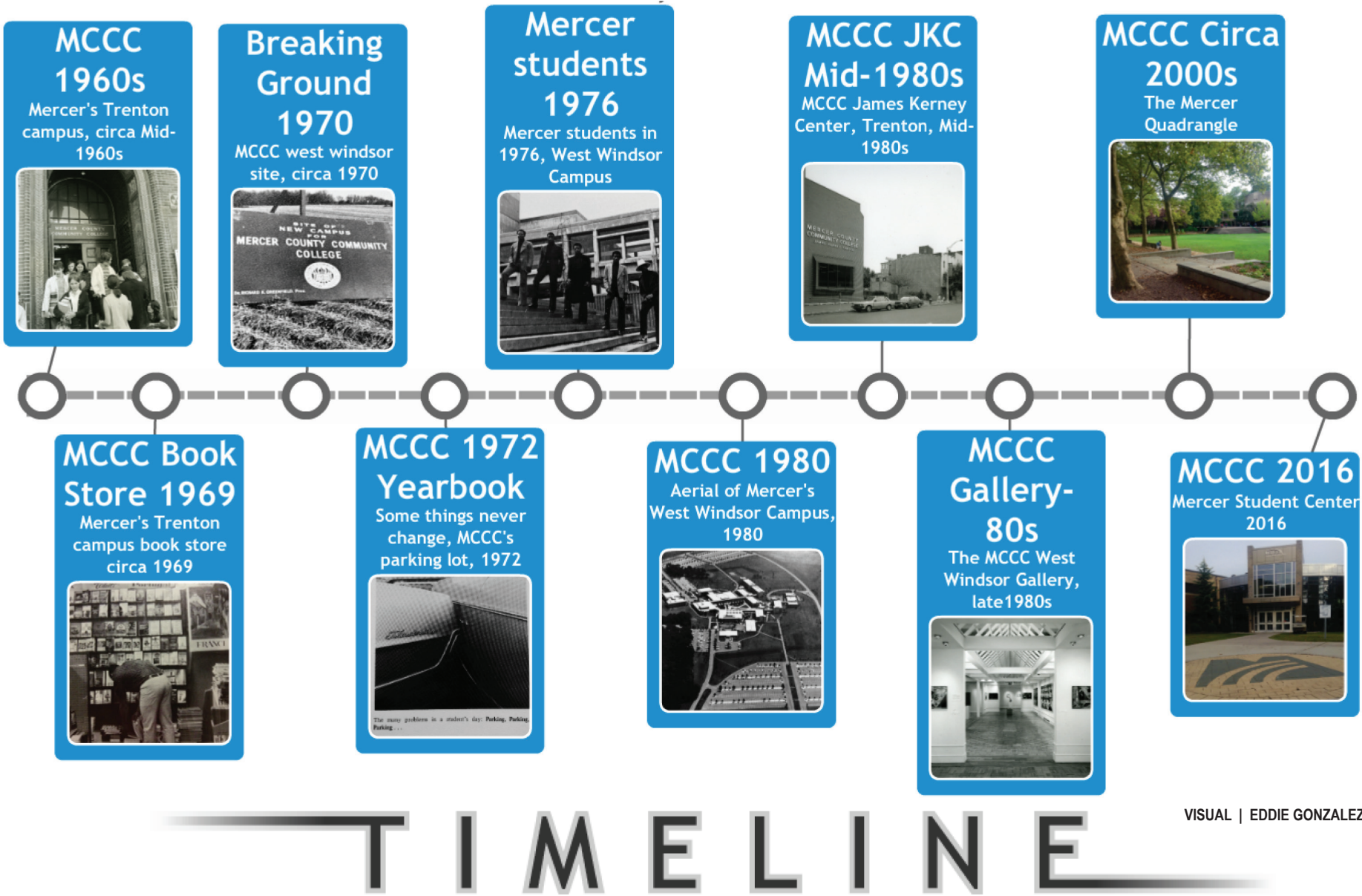




# Mercer celebrates 50th anniversary



VISUAL | EDDIE GONZALEZ

By Eddie Gonzalez  
Junior Reporter

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Mercer County Community College. MCCC has not only expanded from the original Trenton campus, but has also grown as a stepping stone for students' post-high school education in Mercer County. In honor of this milestone, MCCC has planned many events in celebration. On April 15, the MCCC Foundation hosted the "50th Anniversary Gala" to mark the inauguration of the college's sixth president, Dr. Jianping Wang and a student scholarship fundraiser. Mercer's art gallery is also showing an exhibit in September titled "Mercer Arts at 50," highlighting the work of current faculty, alumni, and former faculty. Mercer County

Community College's roots can be traced as far back as 1890 to an evening drawing school, further transforming in 1898 into the Trenton Technical School of Science & Arts, located in 120 North Broad Street. At the turn of the century the school would move to 38 West State Street and a year later in 1901 be renamed once again to the Trenton School of Industrial Arts. In 1947 the school would be renamed to the Trenton Junior College and School of Industrial Arts; it would take 15 years until TJC would be accredited by Middle States. Finally, in 1966 Mercer County Community College would be established, and Dr. Richard K. Greenbrier would be our first president. Also that year the site of the second campus would be selected in West Windsor. It would be three years until groundbreaking would

occur for the west Windsor campus, and three more years before opening in 1972. Tenth anniversary Alumni Terri Fennimore recalled, "I attended in 1976 after high school," she continued, "I had really, really, good professors there. I worked five jobs and was a full time student. So I actively put myself through school, which I could do because it was affordable." Ms. Fennimore also shared what she thinks about her children attending MCCC, "I have had three children attend Mercer, and I think Mercer County Community College is the place to go to see what you really want to do because it's affordable, compared to a four year school, and you can make mistakes, or switch your major and it isn't as costly as a four year school." Although MCCC's appearance has changed throughout the years,

sentiments regarding attendance have not. Current second year student Ryan Ventrillo shared how he feels about attending MCCC, "I like the professors, they know what they're talking about and care about the subjects they teach," he continued, "I'm a business administration major, and I think Mercer would benefit me in the long run... It's a smart, beneficial move and a good school all around." Mercer County Community College has grown and developed into a thriving campus for those looking to better themselves with a diverse range of programs to select from. This includes nursing programs, communications programs, business programs, and much more. With growth and development in only 50 years, who knows what's next for Mercer County Community College.

## Items:

- MCCC 1960s
- MCCC Book Store 1969
- Breaking Ground 1970
- MCCC 1972 Yearbook
- Mercer students 1976
- MCCC 1980
- MCCC JKC Mid-1980s
- MCCC Gallery- 80s
- MCCC Circa 2000s
- MCCC 2016



**CAMPUS EVENTS:**  
Transfer credits,  
advisement, & new waitlist  
system | PG. 2



**GAMES & CARTOONS:**  
Horoscopes, Sudoku, Dilbert  
& Fuzzy | PG. 12

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# Campus News

## Navigating the pitfalls of transfer credits at MCCC

By Svetlana Craft  
Junior Reporter

Imagine working hard, completing your core classes and electives so you are able to transfer to your top school. When the time finally comes, you find out you are not able to because you do not have enough credits. This is a very possible situation when not all classes transfer out of Mercer County Community College (MCCC). This is exactly what happened to Emily Bernstein, a student who transferred from MCCC to Kent State University. While speaking to her she stated, "I was never told that certain courses wouldn't transfer, I was only informed that remedial courses wouldn't."

Bernstein graduated

Hightstown High School in 2014 and went to MCCC to get two years' worth of courses done, then transferred to Kent State University. She has stated, "A large handful of my classes from MCCC did not transfer to my school. So I am currently a year behind because I have to make up for them." When asked how she felt about that she explained that she is a year behind at Kent State University, and will now be paying for another year at school from her own pocket.

Mercer County Community College students need to be aware that if they do plan on transferring to a four-year school, that not all of their credits will transfer.

In a recent survey conducted by The College VOICE, it revealed that most MCCC students do plan on transferring to a four year

school. The start to this process should take place from the very beginning of your first semester at MCCC.

Majority of students have an idea of certain, at least the top schools they consider transferring to, but before students make their schedules, they need to visit the transfer services and/or visit [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org). The transfer services at MCCC are there to guide students through their pathway to success, do not hesitate to make an appointment with one of the administrators for some extra help.

While talking to Laurene Jones, who is the Director of Transfer and Career Services she told me that students who do plan on transferring from the very beginning should get in contact with the transfer department so they could

make the process as easy as possible for the students. Jones mentioned, "Most students come into MCCC and chose classes without speaking to anyone first." Jones also added that students should be checking their emails and coming to the transfer workshops instead of just avoiding it until the last minute. There are many ways students can be informed about credits and what classes do and do not transfer to your top school she mentioned, all students need to do is go to the transfer department and ask for the help they are able to provide.

Billy McCarthy, who is a current student at MCCC, plans on transferring and made a statement that he has not gone to any transfer workshops nor talked to anybody about his credits transferring. McCarthy commented, "MCCC does not

tell us that core classes and electives may not transfer to certain schools, they only tell us that remedial courses do not."

Approximately 12,000 students enroll into credit courses each year at MCCC. With that being said, while surveying 30 students to find out if they plan to transfer, graduate, or take a few credit courses-the results were shocking. Eight out of thirty young adults stated they would graduate at MCCC and the rest said they would transfer. Out of the 12,000 students that enroll each year, that is about 8,800 considering to transfer out of the community college.

Not knowing which classes are the right for you makes it possible for your next step towards success to be delayed. The transfer office is located at SC201, go and get the answers you may need!

## Finding the elusive MCCC adviser



PHOTO | MARIA RAMOS

Students gathering at the PE Building at the West Windsor campus.

By Maria Ramos  
Junior Reporter

Everything is fun and games until it is time to start college. This fall marked the return to school for Laura Callejo, an international student, who was happy and excited to start classes her freshman year. It is her first year at Mercer County Community College. In the beginning she didn't know which classes to take, so her international advisor helped her to figure out which classes were best according to her availability, but not according to her major. Later on, Laura discovered that there is an advisor for her specific major. This advisor is also a professor of some of the classes that she needs to take in order to complete her degree.

There are many stories

like Laura's at Mercer County Community College, but there are also cases where students either don't think they have an advisor, don't know they need one, or their advisor is not helpful. This is the case of Manni, a student majoring in Liberal Arts, who didn't get the right information from her advisor and took many classes that she didn't need for her major. Manni ended up staying one more full semester at MCCC than necessary.

The advisement system at MCCC has always been a controversial topic, whether it is helpful or not for the students. The priority of the advisement department is to help the students succeed in college. This department has a proximity of 200 professors and faculty members that are in charge of different majors. The problem that many students face is when their

advisor is not related to their specific major, and schedule classes that aren't necessary for the degree in question.

In the Department of Communication and Social Media, Barry Levy has been at MCCC for ten years as a professor and advisor for many students. He was questioned about the advisement system, in the matter of being an advisor, "what is the most important advice for a student to be successful at Mercer County Community College?" He first mentioned, it is important to know the student, to build a bridge of trust between student and mentor. As an advisor, it is their job to help the student so it is important to know him/her, to have communication and trust. Professor Levy gets upset when he hears stories about students who had to take more classes because they

## New waitlist system on Campus

By Jaleesa Graham  
Junior Reporter

This semester, Mercer County Community College introduces the class registration wait list. This system, used in many colleges, is new to Mercer and allows students to put themselves on a waitlist, in the hopes of registering into a class that is already full. It is a great option for students that may have waited a little too long to register for classes, and need a specific course to complete their degree or even an option to those that need to make last minute changes to their schedule.

Although many courses are offered at Mercer, there are many students that need to take the same one. Waitlist is a great opportunity to give all students a chance. Many times, students register for a class and cannot make their tuition payment on time, or do not attend the class. Now, those on the waitlist have an opportunity

to take a course they need.

When a seat is available Mercer will send you an email, in order from the first person to the last. You then have 24 hours to register for that course and take the open seat or it is passed to the next person on the waitlist. There may however, be a downside. The system will not tell you if you are actually eligible to take this course, if the prerequisites needed for you to take this course, have been completed. Once the system reaches your name on the waitlist, and you attempt to register for the class, you may then find out you have or have not taken the required classes to enter the course.

The new waitlist system was put into place to assist students meet their degree requirements, and to help ensure each student has a chance of taking the classes that are needed. This added system will potentially improve academics and further the success of MCCC students.

didn't had an advisor who really cared about the student and their personal goals.

In a survey of 30 MCCC students, they were asked, "do you have an advisor?", 60% answered yes, 20% said no, and the other 20% said they had no idea they needed an advisor. Looking at this survey, the majority of students know that they have an advisor, but what about the other students? This shows that the advisement system needs to make sure that every student at Mercer County Community College has an advisor in order to succeed.

The MCCC Dean, Dr. Alexandra Salas of Division of Innovation, Online & Student Success said, "This shared advising system ensures that students can have access to someone who can

assist them with academic planning and answer their questions at any given time. In addition, MCCC now offers e-advising, which means that students can connect with an advising professional online."

The Department of Advisement System is working to reach out to all the MCCC students. It also needs to make sure that students have a contact person who will offer them the information. Students need to be more informed about what an advisor can do for them and not hesitate to reach out to them for help.

**WANT TO LEARN  
MORE ABOUT  
EVENTS IN OUR  
AREA?**

visit [mcccvoice.org](http://mcccvoice.org)



## MCCC Men's soccer team loses 2-1



PHOTO | JOE LANDOLFI

Here we see Craig Lynch (#9) of Camden Community College's Men's Soccer Team about to make the first of the two goals made by his team that night.

By Joe Landolfi  
Junior Reporter

The Mercer County Vikings' Soccer team walked off the West Windsor Campus' soccer field with a loss September 14th, on Wednesday night in a game against Camden County Community College's soccer team. Jared Rodgers (#9), the most seasoned player on Mercer's team, was able to secure one goal for the Vikings in the beginning of the last hour of the game. However, Victor Machado (#23) and Ricardo Oliveria de Sousa (#15) of Camden's team both scored a goal during the earlier half of

the game. It seems that MCCC Viking's Soccer Team, who last year was ranked second in the nation in the NJCAA Division I Men's Soccer national poll, were not able to bring the same type of game that made them a virtually unstoppable force last year to Camden on the night of the 14th. The irony that can be found in this loss is that last season, Mercer defeated Camden 2-0 in October of 2015.

During one of the practices a week before the game, The College Voice interviewed Julian Lucuni, a sophomore at MCCC, in his last year playing for the MCCC Vikings. While interviewing him, Julian described winning as "being in heaven" and even

admitted to having sleepless nights over previous games he played where Mercer lost. If Julian's teammates and coaches have the same mentality as him, then this loss may lower the personal morale of the team. Overall, going into the more important games of the season, Andre' Marcus, a student at MCCC and one of the fans in attendance, told the The College Voice post-game that seeing his school's team lose "kinda sucked". The cold breezes that began to blow and the rain that began falling from the dark sky in the last few moments of the game, seemed to synchronize with the palpable aura of disappointment that radiated from Viking

fans once the realization of imminent defeat settled in.

Despite the losing outcome of their game against Camden, Mercer's soccer team's standing and future prospects will not be greatly affected. While Mercer's athletic director, John Simone, did say, "We're always happy to win", he added that it's just a regular season game. Both Simone and Coach Widmarc Dalce admitted that Camden's team had more experienced players and a better defense respectively. For the Vikings' sake, maybe this loss will show them which areas they need to improve on as a team in order to come away from their next game with a victory.

## Campus welcomes new Vice President of Academic Affairs

By Ousman Joof  
Senior Reporter

This summer, Dr. David Edwards began his journey as the new Vice President of Academic Affairs at Mercer County Community College. Dr. Edwards is coming from two previous colleges; Hudson County Community College and Middlesex County Community College.

He worked various positions at both colleges, from being the Dean and having the responsibilities of the Humanities and Social Science Department at Hudson, to becoming the Dean of Arts and Sciences at Middlesex.

Dr. Edwards began his journey into education at the Louisiana State University to obtain his undergraduate degree in English, his Masters Degree at the University of Texas at Austin, and Doctorate here in New Jersey at Rowan University.

Similar to many other students pursuing a career in teaching, Dr. Edwards didn't have an idea on where he should begin. He started by asking many of his teachers on where to start. Most suggested to study education which will prepare you for a bit of everything and beyond. In

an interview with The Voice, Dr. Edwards mentions his English Literature teacher by the name of Francis Pistorius who was the one to really get him interested in learning.

He states "Maybe I wasn't the most serious student back then when I was a sophomore in high school, but we took a course in American poetry and he [Pistorius] would read the poems out loud in class, he would have us interpret the poems on what they meant and something about that process light my candle in me and I got really excited about it, so from that point on I said to myself I wanted to stay here I didn't know education was going to be it but I really liked school."

Already living in Princeton for the past 11 years, Dr. Edwards was quite familiar with Mercer County Community College [MCCC]. The college system in New Jersey has given him the opportunity to learn a lot about MCCC without actually being here, but he does state that "It is different once you are actually here."

Dr. Edwards also mentioned "my first impressions were very good [describing MCCC], I'm extremely impressed by faculty dedication to subject matter, the faculty that teach here are truly committed

to students success."

In his interview with the newspaper, Dr. Edwards stated some changes he would like implement while he is here at Mercer. His main focus being developmental education for those student not entirely prepared for college level courses and shortening the amount of time student are in those class. Dr. Edwards stated "there are systems right now in practice that do that; they are called Accelerated Learning Programs (ALP). The way Dr. Edwards described how it will work is students will take the pre english course or pre math course with their target course at the same time, so if you pass one you'll pass the other and move on from there. With a Title 3 grant the school has received hopefully some of the funds could be put towards the program.

President Jianping Wang expressed that "Dr. David Edwards brings a great deal of dedication, enthusiasm, and community college experience to Mercer. His commitment to our students and his administrative approach with accountability will enhance our service to our students."

President Wang added that "Dr. David Edwards brings a great deal of dedication, enthusiasm, and community college experience



PHOTO | MCCC

Dr. David Edwards, Vice President of Academic Affairs.

to Mercer. His commitment to our students and his administrative approach with accountability will enhance our service to our students."

Dr. Edwards reminds students that "my door to this office is always open. Please come talk to me about what you know, what worries you, what you are concerned about, and if something you need you are not getting, my door is always open."

## The Faculty Corner



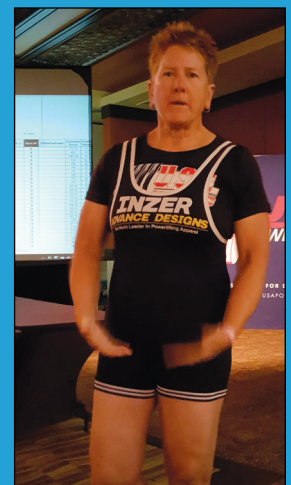
**Prof. Lisa Shave**

MCCC welcomes Professor Lisa M. Shave who joins the Health Professions Division as the Medical Laboratory Technology Program Coordinator.



**Prof. Amy Ricco**

Professor Amy Ricco, Coordinator of the Ornamental Horticulture Program, was recently promoted to Full Professor this year.



**Prof. Elizabeth Bondurant**

This month, Prof. Bondurant, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, competed in the Bench Press Championship and qualified for the US National Team for her age and weight category. Last year she set an American Record for bench pressing. She looks forward to competing in the World's Bench Press contest in Killeen, Texas in April 2017.



**Dr. Holly Kaiser**

Professor Holly Beinert, faculty member of the Health Professions Division and Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education, recently got married and is now Professor Holly Kaiser. Congratulations!

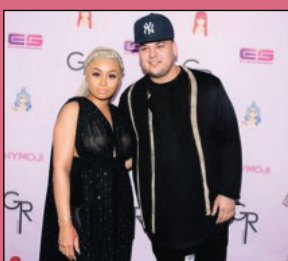


## The Celebrity Scoop



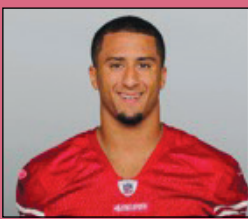
### iPhone 7

Dreaming of a better camera quality, wireless headphones, and perhaps surviving a 7-foot drop? Say no more, your dream is now a reality! The iPhone 7 has recently launched September 16th, 2016.



### Rob & Chyna

Kardashian Addicts in the house! The brand new reality TV show *Rob & Chyna* is now playing on E! Every Sunday at 9PM EST. So sit back, relax and get bundled in the baby and family drama.



### Colin Kaepernick

San Francisco 49ers quarterback, Colin Kaepernick, chose not to stand for the national anthem at the team's preseason opener Friday August 26th, and has continued to do so every game since. Kaepernick says it's his way of taking a stand against police brutality, and the oppression of minorities in the United States.



### Madden NFL 2017

EA Sports released their newest edition of Madden NFL 2017 on August 23rd 2016. This edition offers new modes of playing, new players, better animations, and is far more welcoming to newer players.



### Beauty & the Beast

Relive your childhood favorite by hitting the theaters March 2017 and catching a glimpse of the modern Beauty And The Beast film starring Emma Watson as Belle.

# Entertainment

## Miss Saigon Captivates the Senses & Mind

By Jay Jasti  
Junior Reporter

On finding your seat at Mercer's Kelsey Theatre, you, the viewer, are greeted by silence. But the moment the viewer begins to relax in the chair, the stage explodes with sound and color, ensemble actors running across the stage, and an incredible orchestral piece fills the auditorium, all painting a picture to tell the audience that "The Heat is On in Saigon", and soon enough, you, the viewer are lost in it yourself.

Miss Saigon is a feast for the eyes and ears. With brilliant music and choreography that pulls the viewer in with an ambitious and dramatic scale that is rare and refreshing to see, and complements the drama and scale of the story perfectly.

Miss Saigon is a take on the Madame Butterfly story set in the Vietnam War, rather than the original World War II, and was first produced in 1989, making its Broadway debut in 1991. Through the efforts of Pinnworth Production company, and through the ambition and effort of director Lou J. Stalworth, The Kelsey Theatre has the chance to tell this engaging and thought provoking tale. Miss Saigon is a story of "How people are tied to each other through adversity", to quote audience member Shawn Rupp of Egg Harbor, NJ. Miss Saigon does this by following a seventeen year old bar girl named Kim (Lianah Sta. Ana) and her brief but intense love affair with Christopher Scott (Michael Scibilia), a US Marine sergeant and an embassy guard during the Fall of Saigon in 1975. Between the drama of the war,

an encounter with Kim's cousin Thuy (Logan Taesang Jo), to whom she was betrothed, and the never ending manipulation of The Engineer (Michael Schiumo), a pimp and businessman bankrupt only in his morals. The story engages, emotionally and morally, and does so by "putting a human face on the price of a thankless war", to quote director Lou J. Stalworth, all through the lens of the final days of the Vietnam War, but this is just one half of what makes the show so engaging.

A large portion of what makes Miss Saigon so captivating is the music, with the orchestra handling the diverse and nuanced pieces this play demands with finesse, making the music dance in a way of its own. The cast brought even greater character and depth to the thought-provoking and emotionally engaging songs with Lianah Sta. Ana and Michael Scibilia delivering performances that make the viewer smile, cry, hope and fear for their characters, drawing the viewer in by almost speaking to them with their singing, and making him or her a part of telling this story. Michael Schiumo's performance as The Engineer makes one think as much as it makes one laugh; discussing themes like race, opportunity, and the American Dream. "Glorious" was how director Lou J. Stalworth described it. "It's grand theatre. It truly is an opera. The love story is compelling, the music is rich". Miss Saigon is no ordinary piece of theatre, it truly is a masterpiece that will have audiences as engaged with their mind as with their senses.

Not often does a piece of art capture the senses and



PHOTO | KEVIN FINN

Lianah Sta. Ana as Kim and Michael Scibilia as Chris



PHOTO | KEVIN FINN

Lianah Sta. Ana is kim, Jeremy Barson is a solider

the mind, and even more rarely does a piece of art combine the two in a way that is truly memorable and impactful, but Miss Saigon does this seamlessly. The Kelsey Theatre's work on this play, and the ambition of this production amaze just as much as this incredible tale. Audience member Ed Warhol, who has seen Miss Saigon more than ten times, praised the play's ability to entertain viewers, but also makes them ask fundamental questions about people and the tendency to "forget those

people we care about" and to remember "those things we leave behind". Not just as far as the story goes, but in their own lives, and this is what makes this play stand out above so many others. The best art leaves a piece of itself with its audience, and takes a piece of its audience with them. So, whether one comes for the story or for the music and dance, and whether one has seen Miss Saigon ten times or is seeing it for the first time, there is something to be amazed by and something to take away from this wonderful work.

## New exhibit celebrates 50 years

By Christine Villafuerte  
Senior Reporter

The Gallery at Mercer County Community College begins the first exhibit of the fall semester titled Mercer Arts at Fifty. The special exhibit will be on display from September 19 to October 18.

Mercer County Community College is celebrating the 50th anniversary as a college. In honor of this milestone, the college is hosting a number of commemorative and celebratory events throughout the year, including this exhibit. The Mercer Arts at Fifty show will feature artworks from selected alumni of Mercer's arts programs as well as current and former full-time faculty.

This exhibit will be the first under the supervision of Interim Director, Kerri O'Neil as she says, "This show is really exciting because it includes

current faculty, former faculty and the students they have selected. The works are ranging from all media and shows the diversity among generations. Mercer Arts at 50 is very special because you only get to celebrate a 50th anniversary once."

Opening Reception took place on Wednesday, September 21 from 5 to 7 pm. The show is free and open to the public. "All of us at the Gallery are excited to see what this event has in store" explains intern Lizzie Mayer.

The Gallery will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Gallery at MCCC is located on the second floor of the Communications Building on the college's West Windsor campus, 1200 Old Trenton Road. Visitors are welcome to look around and enjoy the art on display.



PHOTO | CHRISTINE VILLAFUERTE

Art piece located in the gallery.



Trip to Poland offers students chance of a lifetime

By Alyssa Flodmand  
Junior Reporter

On their final day in Poland, a few travelers went back to Birkenau. Upon entering the cold, dark gates of Birkenau Concentration Camp, a student found a thimble while another found a coin from 1938. The coin was imprinted with a swastika and a Nazi eagle on the front. It was very worn down and rigid, and the imprint was almost illegible. These two items were then logged and archived, making those travelers a part of history.

Mercer County Community College held a study tour to Poland this past May, which was open to students first, then faculty, and last, community members. Taking fourteen travelers, the trip lasted from the 12th to the 22nd and came with a planned itinerary. The trip was organized around a Holocaust theme and consisted of the visitation of Warsaw, Krakow, and Oswiecim.

Discovering a thimble and a coin from 1938 was only one of the many stories told by the travelers upon their return. They each had countless memories to share and could not wait to pass them along.

While most trips are planned by Mercer, this one was done entirely by Dr. Jack Tabor and Dr. Craig Coenen. Both professors teach classes that surround the Holocaust; Dr. Tabor is the professor of, "Literatures of War and Conflict: The Holocaust" and Dr. Craig Coenen is the professor of, "The Holocaust and other Genocides." They both attended the last trip to Poland in 2013 and did not like how the tour was

set up. This year they took the initiative and decided to plan it themselves. Being more affordable allowed for more student and community travelers. With the re-designed itinerary, travelers were able to spend the beginning of the trip getting to know each other, and the sites built up to the most gut-wrenching artifacts there: Auschwitz and Birkenau (the working and death camps).

The first three days were spent in Warsaw where they walked the city, were introduced to Polish culture and mouth-watering food, and inhaled more of Warsaw's history. They then traveled to Krakow for two days where they visited the Jewish Quarter (a Jewish town) and its synagogues, the Jewish ghetto, Oskar Schindler's factory, a place where 1200 Jews were saved, and the Plaszow forced labor camp, a very dark, cold place. The final two days were then spent in Oswiecim and the Auschwitz and Birkenau Concentration Camps.

Out of the fourteen travelers, three are professors at Mercer, nine were students (some have transferred to four-year universities), one American Honors Advisor, and one a member of the Mercer County Holocaust Genocide Resource Center. Each of which had their own reason behind going on the study tour, and the perspective they had while there.

The professors of the study tour, Tabor and Coenen were asked what a professor could take from a study tour, being already so informed on the subject. They both gave the same answer; "when you have a passion for the subject, one can never be fully informed." Craig Coenen says, "As someone who was actually

there [Poland], my passion only grows. [For students] talking to someone who has been to these places and has seen these things is so powerful and enhances my teaching."

They were also asked what they wanted students to get out of the study tour. Jack Tabor answers, "[I wanted them] to have an experience that changes them. To give them something they could not get out of a textbook; an unmediated experience to wander and to discover." To hope that this was something students would think about for years to come. After talking to students, it seems like that's exactly what was accomplished.

Mae Kristy Calacal, third year Liberal Arts major, provides insight when she tells about the sneakers she brought with her on the trip. "They are still coated with dirt from Auschwitz. They are like a constant reminder of the atrocities that have happened." She brought home with her a piece of Auschwitz, a piece that she will never be able to forget.

Another student Erica Sost, fourth year Liberal Arts major, also adds how she continues to think about the trip on a daily basis. While in Auschwitz, there was an area that showed the hair of women that was shaved off. Erica distinctly remembers a blonde ponytail because it matches her hair color. When she came home and tried to get her hair cut, Sost says she had a panic attack because it brought her back into that room of Auschwitz and the image of the blonde ponytail. The travelers will forever be affected by the experiences they had in Poland.

Each person was also asked what the most rewarding part of the tour was. Some like Sheldon Eisenberg,

member of the Mercer County Holocaust Genocide Resource Center, had roots in Poland he wished to discover. Both of Shelly's parents are Holocaust survivors, so his motivation for going and the rewards were a bit more personal. Alyson Krawchuk, American Honors Advisor, had a similar story. Poland is where her family was raised, she was able to gain knowledge of the culture of her family. Others on the trip however, found an incredible bond between the rest of the travelers.

Beforehand, most travelers were strangers. But by the end of this trip these fourteen travelers created such a strong bond. "All can relate, regardless of background" says English professor, Laura Knight, explaining why they created such a quick, strong connection. Going through an emotional experience such as this can unify people so quickly. The relationship they formed was because they could all relate to one story or another. In Auschwitz, there was a picture hanging up of two sisters. It explained a story of two sisters that refused to be separated and this story touched the hearts of two sisters that were on the trip Mallory and Bridget Phelan. Almost immediately, they began crying. Others from the group comforted them by holding their hands and hugging them. Everyone made sure to mention how two weeks after they returned home, everyone got together again. The meeting reiterated how close this experience brought them, and the new friends that were made.

Mercer County Community College offers opportunities to study abroad and study tours. The tours



PHOTO | DR. JACK TABOR  
Coin found in Birkenau from 1938.

are short term while studying abroad is for an entire semester. The program is already outstanding but there is much more to come says Andrea Lynch, professor and coordinator for the Center for Global Opportunities (GO!). The central focus has been on study tours and semester abroad for students, but in the near future they would like to bring attention to the existing work of infusing curriculum with the education of other cultures and to support and expand campus internationalization efforts, making the campus a multicultural place learn and grow.

The study tour to Poland was one that travelers will never be able to forget. Not only were they able to receive unmediated experience to connect with their in-class education but they created strong friendships along the way. With future expansion of study tours taking place the educational and social possibilities are endless. "Hate comes from fear of the unknown," says Alyson Krawchuk. "If people could have more experiences like this, the world would be a happier place."



PHOTO | ALYSON KRAWCHUK  
Auschwitz from outside the fence.



PHOTO | ALYSON KRAWCHUK  
Birkenau with tracks leading through the front gate.



# Choosing the Ne

## THE CANDIDATES' POSITIONS



HILLARY CLINTON

- Enforce Immigration laws humanely.
- Promote naturalization.
- Defend President Obama's executive actions—(DACA and DAPA).
- Introduce immigration reform with a pathway to full and equal citizenship.



DONALD TRUMP

### IMMIGRATION

- Create a wall across the entire Southern Border.
- Have Mexico pay for the wall.
- Triple the Number of ICE Officers
- Mandatory return all criminal aliens and undocumented aliens.
- End birthright citizenship.

### TAXES

- Restore basic fairness to our tax code.
- Close corporate and Wall Street tax loopholes and invest in America.
- Simplify and cut taxes for small business so they can hire and grow.
- Provide tax relief to working families from the rising costs they face.

- Have individual income tax rates: 12, 25 and 33 percent.
- Repeal the Death Tax.
- Make a childcare tax only capped to a certain amount while the rest won't cover.
- Lower the business tax from 35 percent to a 15 percent.

### HEALTHCARE

- Defend and expand the Affordable Care Act
- Bring down out-of-pocket costs like copays and deductibles.
- Reduce the cost of prescription drugs.

- Completely repeal Obamacare.
- Modify existing law that inhibits the sale of health insurance across state lines.
- Block-grant Medicaid to the states.

## WHO ARE YOU VOTING FOR AND WHY



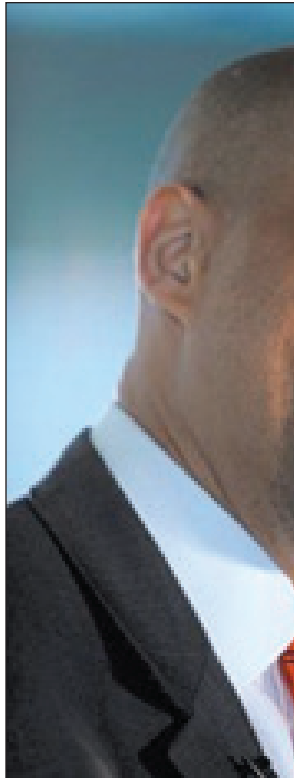
Dan Hurley, 2nd Year Student, President of the Democratic Club, Majoring in Liberal Arts

"I believe that Hillary Clinton is the most qualified person for the Presidency of the United States. She doesn't use bigotry or threats to others to make a point, and she means what she means. From her experience as First Lady of the United States, to Senator, to Secretary of State she has what it takes, compared to Donald Trump who means whatever a teleprompter makes him say"



Unanimous Mercer Student, 2nd Year, Majoring in Liberal Arts

"I believe that Donald Trump should be elected President of the United States. He is an outsider to politics and wouldn't take any nonsense that today's politicians are creating in Washington. Trump will take charge and make this country great. He will make sure to get corruption out and give us back our country. Compared to the Democratic Candidate, Donald Trump has his head over his shoulders to Make America Great Again."



United States Senator  
the Triumph Bar located  
September

"Voting is our right and  
If something doesn't  
know if it might affect  
you believe that voting  
are wrong. No matter  
affect you, you should  
put the right people in  
making a better future"

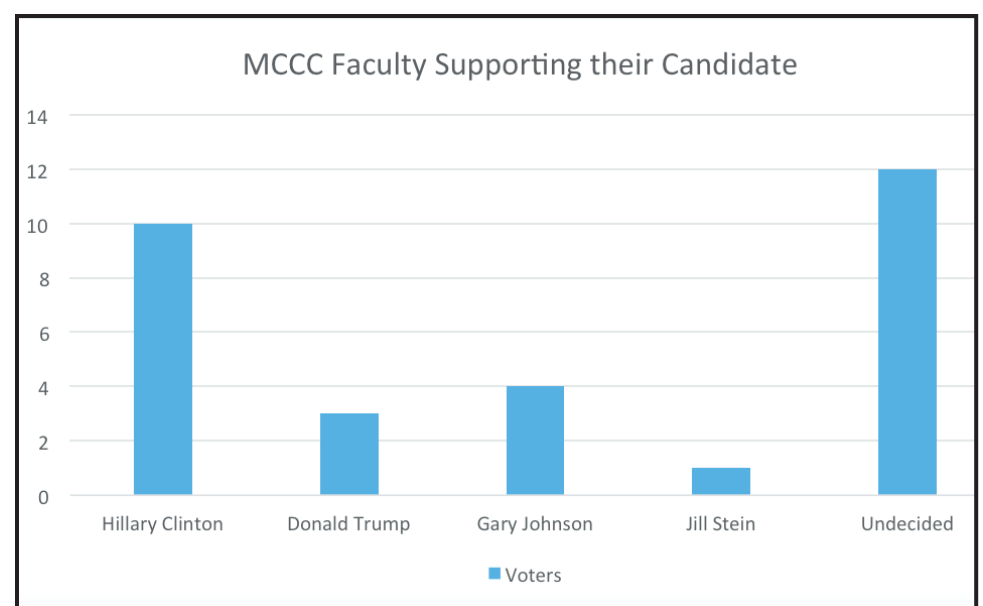
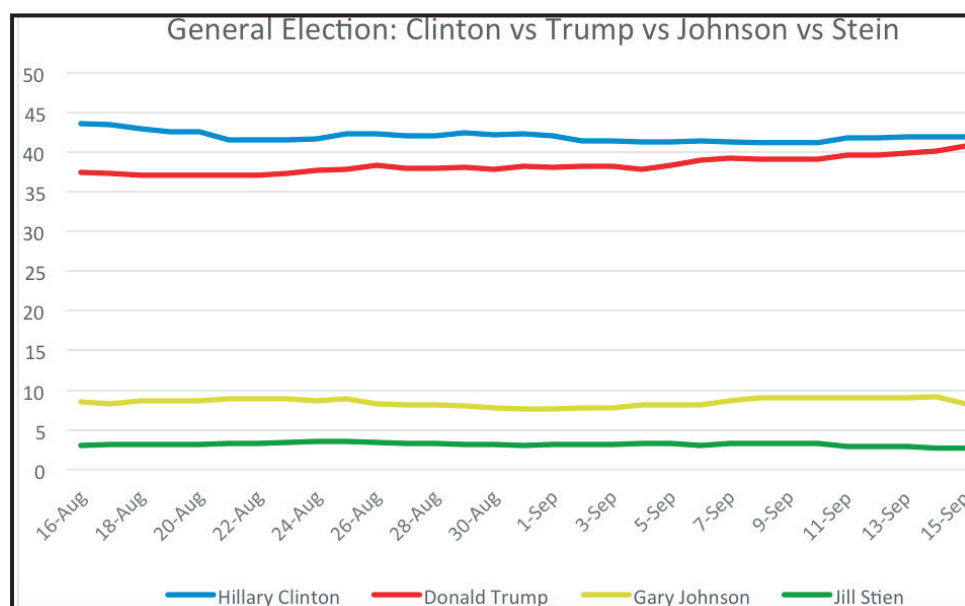
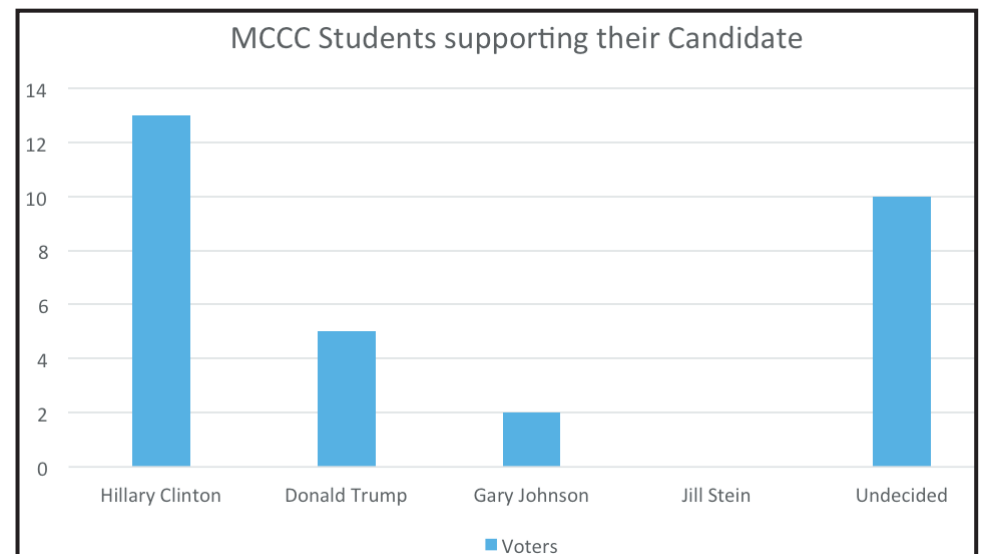
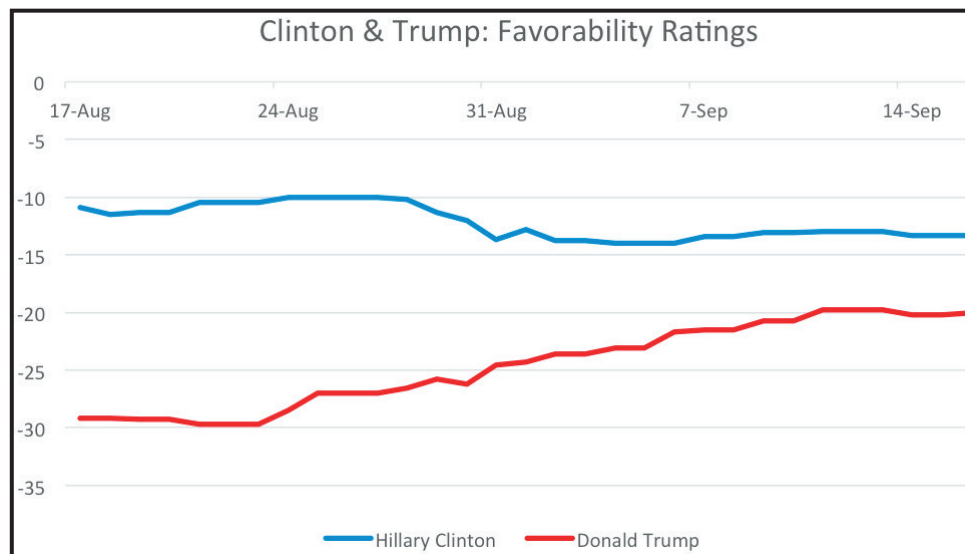
\*Information was gathered from  
[hillaryclinton.com](http://hillaryclinton.com), [donaldtrump.com](http://donaldtrump.com), and  
[RealClearPolitics.com](http://RealClearPolitics.com).



# Next US President

Compild by Pablo Araya-Chacon  
Senior Reporter

## LOOKING AT THE NUMBERS



## WHY?



ates Senator (D-NJ) Cory Booker at  
ph Bar located in Princeton, NJ on  
September 18, 2016.

our right and we take it as a privilege.  
ing doesn't affect you, you might not  
might affect the person next to you or if  
e that voting isn't necessary, then you  
. No matter if does, may, or doesn't  
you should always vote to make sure we  
ght people into office, and focus about  
better future for everyone in this country."

## PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE SCHEDULE

**\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE\***

- **September 26, 2016:** From 9:00pm - 10:30pm
- **October 9, 2016:** From 9:00pm - 10:30pm
- **October 19, 2016:** From 9:00pm - 10:30pm

## HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN NEW JERSEY

### BY MAIL

• **Step One:** Print the form online or get your voter registration form through your County Commissioner of Registration or Superintendent of Elections.

\*Forms for Counties can be found at:

[www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voting-information.html](http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voting-information.html)

\*Locations for Counties can be found at:

[www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voting-information-local-officials.html](http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voting-information-local-officials.html)

• **Step Two:** Fill out the form once you have it with you.

• **Step Three:** Mail the completed form to your County Commissioner of Registration or Superintendent of Elections no later than **October 18**.

### In Person

• Follow the same process as by mail but instead of mailing it, submit the form in person by **October 18**.



Sugar Spice, and Everything Nice: Nina’s Brings a Belgian Tradition to The States

By Gavin Wilson  
Junior Reporter

An aroma wafts throughout the cobbled streets of Princeton. Fortunate passers give double takes, searching for a second chance to inhale the delicious scent. Where could this delicious caramel-esque smell be coming from? A glowing storefront, beaming with soft intensity, welcomes the window shoppers and strollers alike.

Nina’s Waffles, is the culprit of these delicious smells. Once inside, the trace of caramel is replaced with a warming wave of the same smell. A feeling of bliss and joy is accompanied with a sense of home overtakes. Nina’s waffles offers more than just a tasty treat, it offers a community.

The result of Louis Zanaïs’ love for a traditional Belgian style liege waffle and natural and local ingredients, Nina’s is truly one of a kind. Having been his “boyhood dream” to bring the traditional style of waffle stateside, there was no shortage of passion behind him. With over 200 flavors of ice cream in their books, and over 20 toppings, there is something for everyone to enjoy. What could go better with more ice cream, than a soft hot waffle?

Nina’s liege style waffle is different from your standard American diner-style waffle. Cooked to order, the waffles are made with a dough rather than a batter, with pearl sugar inside. Pearl sugar, a clumped byproduct of white granulated sugar, is used for it’s resistance to high heats. The pea sized sugar melts as the waffle is baked, giving the Liege its signature glow. A freshly cooked waffle

gleams with a dark brown sheen of caramelized sugar. With addition of ice cream, there is no better treat to enjoy.

It does not stop there, at their most recent location, 252 Nassau Street Princeton, they offer a savory menu which includes a variety of irresistible choices. Princeton hosts many different meal worthy options including a macaroni and cheese waffle with pulled pork, to a breakfast bacon, egg, and cheese waffle.

Heather Lacey, the general manager of Nina’s New Hope, PA location, stated “We try to keep it as basic as possible.” Which is what they have, by using local, fresh ingredients in each and every one of their products. She also continued on to stress the importance of creating a “family oriented experience.” Chic and streamline elements mixed with traditional parlor decor gives Nina’s an at home feeling, that is geared towards all ages.

Kate Nelson, general manager of Nina’s Princeton location, met with The College Voice, and offered some insight for students. “Nina’s is a great place for study groups to meet up” Nelson said, and was pleased to say so. With its various seating options, tasty treats, cute ambiance, and free wifi-- how could local students go wrong?

Nina’s welcomes all MCCC students and faculty with open arms, in addition to anyone in search of something delicious to eat. Nina’s is open all year round, and offers catering, in addition to rental of one of their waffles trucks. With this level of passion, Nina’s has set itself apart from its competition.



PHOTO | GAVIN WILSON

One of the many quaint angles of Nina’s, bar and cafe style seating shown.

**CORRECTION:** It has come to our attention that in the last issue printed on April 4, 2016, The College VOICE incorrectly published a caption that read, “MCCC raised tuition costs by 6.5%.” We later discovered that the approved tuition increase was in fact 2.5%.

Reviews

House of Cupcakes: Where You Can Have Your Cake and Eat It Too

By Caitlin Kevett  
Junior Reporter

As a previous first-prize winner of “Cupcake Wars” in 2011 and located right in the thriving town of Princeton, it is no wonder as to why House of Cupcakes has been a growing success for the past eight years. Rich in smell, and warm greetings, the store teems with an overall enjoyable feeling. At first, the choice of which dessert to try may be certainly overwhelming as there are over thirty-five flavors of cupcakes amongst other treats such as, donuts and cookies.

Co-founder, Ruth Bzdewka has shared that the recipes for these delicious cupcakes were not just developed overnight. Ruth says, “Many of the recipes were ones my mom made when we were kids. The ‘mum

mum’ cupcake is my favorite and named for my mom.”

There is much to be said about this budding cupcake shop. A full time employee, Terry Fischer, enjoys working for the establishment because she feels that all of the employees are like a close-knit family and everyone cares about each other. She says that because of this, it doesn’t really feel like work. The owner, Ruth Bzdewka has also enjoyed her time spent here as she says, “We get to meet wonderful people and working in a retail establishment is a rewarding life. I could not ask for anything more.”

As far as the national bestseller cupcake, red velvet takes the prize. A current customer, Megan T., comes here with her parents on occasional weekends just for a sweet treat and enjoys red velvet along with cookies

and cream as her favorite cupcake choices. Her parents, Steve and Jackie, may have to disagree as they picked out strawberry shortcake and carrot cake as their favorites.

For first timers, vanilla-filled is another cupcake that deserves recognition. It is loaded with creamy vanilla icing, while the inside cake is very moist and fresh. The top of the cupcake is covered with rainbow sprinkles giving it an appetizing look overall. This shop is doing very well for itself just based off of customer input and, the employees are more than satisfied with their jobs. It is clear why this place has become a favorite for locals, as well as travelers from around the country. Those of you looking for a sweet treat should not miss out on this place, because it does not disappoint!



PHOTO | CAITLIN KEVETT

Located right on Witherspoon Street in Princeton, this bakery is surely not to be missed with its bright pop of light blue walls, busy workers, and customers seated by the windows enjoying their treats.

The Low Down on The Get Down

By Cassandra Pineiro  
Junior Reporter

In a year that has been giving people of color their fair share of representation after years of waiting, The Get Down, directed by Baz Luhrmann, opened up a doorway for a very specific kind of diversity.

New York City, as it is being torn apart by gentrification, is finally having its history accurately portrayed in mainstream media. Starring an Afro-latino in the main role, with a cast made up of primarily black and nuyoric characters, we get to see New York in its gritty reality.

New York hasn’t always been the capitalistic, consumerist city you see today. In the South Bronx of 1977 if buildings weren’t aflame, they were nothing but piles of rubble scattered throughout violent, drug-addled streets. Phyllis Jones, a Harlem native who

has been living in the South Bronx since she was a young child, lets us know, “The South Bronx was indeed ‘burning’. Entire neighborhoods were hollow shells, buildings were purposely set on fire by arsonists hired by greedy landlords for insurance money.”

The Get Down isn’t just a musical tv show, it’s a much needed reminder of the pain and suffering New York was built off of and hopefully a wake-up call to gentrifiers disrespecting natives who have stuck with New York through thick and thin. With authentic footage from late 70s NYC, the show provides viewers with glimpses of the past chaos combined with the joy of an era that provided cheap rent and exploration of the self.

Although the show received great praise for being the first of its kind, it also brought criticism amongst South Bronx natives. Many believe that the show will

bring in another wave of gentrification to the area due to the romanticization the show brings to the era. With advertisements like Kylie Jenner in Pumas in old New York City subways, the nostalgia for a bygone time is hitting hard and we’re seeing more shows like this coming into development. In terms of representation, this is amazing, but for people struggling to make rent while living in poverty it means rising prices as tourism and newcomers begin to scout their previously off-putting neighborhoods.

So remember to enjoy your television shows, but don’t try to make them become a reality. Sometimes your dreams end up resulting in the displacement of others. The Get Down gets favorable reviews from New Yorkers, but surely those reviews will start to go down once those rent prices start to go up.. Again.



the college  
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Prof. Matthew J. Kochis, Adviser

# The Six Year Status Quo

## An examination into graduation rates

*AS I SEE IT***Caroline Strainer**

At what point did “the best four years” of a person’s life turn into the best six? According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2013, the six year rate of graduation was 56% for males and 62% for females. This was a statistic among first-time, full-time students who began seeking a bachelor’s degree at a four year institution in 2007. Fifty nine percent of them were unable to obtain their Bachelor’s degree until Spring of 2013.

What are some factors contributing to this? Which sociological changes have occurred to cause this problem? How much control as a society do we have over this issue? Is it too late to change?

According to many sociologists, humanity consists of two reciprocal components. There is culture, which is the “blueprints” or “recipes” that form patterns in our behaviors, thoughts and emotions resulting in the creation of social structures, which is the second component. Social structures are patterns of relationships among people. Social structures socialize us to learn a culture. With culture comes norms, values and roles. As far as social structures, we have statuses, patterns of interaction, groups, organizations, bureaucracies and social institutions, which are the largest social structures. Education is a social institution, meaning it is a way of instilling norms, values, skills and knowledge. So, what factors can be attributed to this social change? Is the significant increase in the amount of time it takes to graduate from college something in which we as people have control over?

Today’s adolescents have been pressured into believing an education is not just a value or expectation, but a necessity in order to obtain

a half-way “decent” job.

Many youths grow up with the plan to obtain a Bachelor’s degree, but have forgotten the real reason behind attending college. With endless social opportunities and their first taste of freedom, many students prioritize community functions over the library and their GPA.

Over the years, our society has become one in which young people turn into “kidults” - a term previously unknown until a mentioning in an article written by Tony Dokoupil on sociology, Michael Kimmel’s book *Guyland: the Perilous World Where Boys Become Men*. In the book, Kimmel mentions how adolescent [males] “see grown-up life as such a loss,” explaining the increase in young men who are content to sit out their 20s in duct-taped beanbag chairs.

According to Robert Schoeni, a research professor at the University of Michigan, an average of \$20,000 in student loans, and an entitlement that stops them from taking any old job, has resulted in an increase in the percentage of 26-year-olds living with their parents, which has nearly doubled since 1970, from 11 to 20 percent.

As far as the economic contributors go, there are not enough scholarships or FAFSA in the world to cover the immense hole that college creates in the majority of students’ pockets. To try and better afford college, people are taking fewer credits at a time. However, according to a report called “Four Year Myth” done by a non-profit group based in Indianapolis, “The reality is that our system of higher education costs too much, takes too long and graduates too few.” Despite appearing like a better, more cost-efficient option, the reality is costing students, and their parents, thousands more dollars to do this, and with the lengthy graduation rate becoming the status quo, more and

more money is being thrown out every year.

According to the same study, the problem is even worse at community colleges, where only five percent of students are earning their Associate’s degree within the traditional two year period.

Though outside economic factors have also taken a toll on college aged students, with the recent recession there has also been a decrease in available jobs.

“We have a monster jobs problem, and young people are the biggest losers,” said Andrew Sum, an economist and director of the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University. Hope Yen mentions this problem in her article titled “Census: Recession Takes Big Toll On Young Adults.” Yen mentions the increase of older people in the labor force, and points out that the employment rate among young adults is the lowest it has been since the end of World War II.

With a lack of available jobs waiting for recently graduated college students, there is minimal motivation to graduate and enter the workforce.

With institutions making the transfer process difficult, and counselors and advisors misinforming and miscommunicating with students, it does not take much to fall behind on credits, prerequisites and other requirements needed to graduate.

For example, many colleges, including Mercer County Community College, inform their students that you are required to take 12 credits per semester in order to be enrolled as a full time student. Though often times the part that is left out, is that it is necessary for a student to be taking 15-16 credits a semester in order to actually graduate on time.

Education in America is a huge institution in itself; and with the industrialization of not only educational institutions, but society

as a whole, a rise in monopolies and economic profiting has occurred as well. Whether you’re going to a private or public institution, colleges are looking for any which way in which they can profit off of you. If that means making your life harder or “accidentally” pushing you back from graduating then that is what it means.

Just as anything else in society, education is something central to society and, with all of the different constituents of it, is susceptible to social change. Due to sociological influences, changes and factors, the graduation rate from college has gone from four to six years.

Despite our attempts as human beings to gain control over society and the things that influence it, it is not always that easy. There are many different opinions on society and social change, and although we as people are the reason behind the change, often times the way society changes is not something we have direct control over. With education playing such a huge role in our current society, it is clear that behavior and actions as human beings will affect it, but there is not much we can do to control what occurs. And with graduation rates being a piece of a bigger sociological puzzle, it is not a problem that can be fixed unless the rest of humanity shifts as well.

A professor once said to me, “your life prospects depend on large scale social forces.” After studying for a semester at one four year institution, then at Mercer County Community College for a semester, only to move onto the next four year university in the fall, this theory became one which has become a firsthand experience. It made graduating in four years less of a possibility, and has proven that even strong personal goals and hard work may not stand a chance against a social institution such as colleges in America.

Do you see a  
**typo?**

Then join the staff and  
fix it!

Wednesdays 12noon ET 127

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ON MCCC’S STUDENT  
RADIO STATION  
**VIKING 89.1?**  
CONTACT THEM ON THE  
FIRST FLOOR OF THE  
STUDENT CENTER!

**Editorial Policy:**

The College VOICE is written and edited by students of Mercer County Community College and published 3 times a semester under the advisement of a faculty adviser. The material printed in The College VOICE, be it articles, advertisements or opinion pieces, does not necessarily represent the views of the editors, the faculty, staff, administration or the board of trustees of Mercer County Community College.

**Write to The College VOICE!**

Do you have something to say? The College VOICE accepts letters to the editor. Submissions should be no more than 300 words; longer submissions may be shortened. Submit materials in electronic format, and include your name and status at Mercer (major and year, faculty or staff position or alumnus). All materials submitted become the property of The College VOICE, which reserves the right to reject or edit material based on length, taste or clarity.

**How to contact us:**

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phone: (609) 586-4800 ext. 3852

write to: **The College VOICE**

c/o Prof. Matthew J. Kochis

Mercer County Community College

1200 Edinburg Rd.

West Windsor, NJ 08690



*KELSEY REVIEW*

35.1

FALL 2016



Jessie Liang, "Danger Sign Outpo

TO READ, VISIT  
KELSEYREVIEW.COM

I AM PAYING ATTENTION!

IS THIS YOU?

YES?

YOU BELONG WITH US!  
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Make friends .  
Find your voice!

The College VOICE  
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PHOTOGRAPHERS  
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ET 127  
MONDAYS: 12:30-1:15  
THURSDAYS: 12:00-1:15

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At Holy Family University, 40% of new full-time students began their college experience at another institution. Like them, you'll find more than 40 programs to choose from, one of the lowest net cost options among private universities in the region, and a truly supportive learning environment. Plus, Holy Family University was ranked by NPR as a top 50 school in the nation for emphasizing upward mobility.\*

Join our Family. Learn more at [HolyFamily.edu/Bridge](http://HolyFamily.edu/Bridge)

*The Value of Family*



**Holy Family**  
UNIVERSITY



**MERCER**  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

\* National Public Radio, September 2015

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**Quaker Bridge Mall**



**James Kerney Campus**



**MERCER**  
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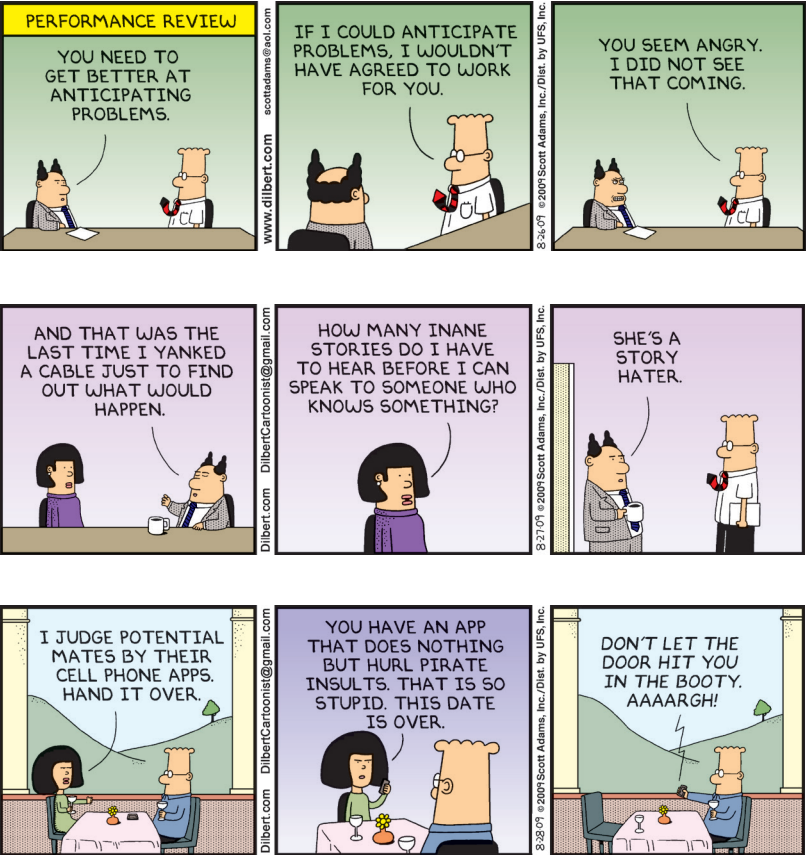
Mercer County Community College provides free shuttle service weekdays during the Fall and Spring semesters for students, faculty, and staff who wish to travel between the college's West Windsor Campus and either of two locations – to and from the college's Trenton Campus, or to and from Quaker Bridge Mall in Lawrenceville (where NJ Transit buses connect to Lawrenceville, the Ewing 609 route, and Princeton 605 route). These handicapped-accessible MCCC courtesy shuttles operate on a first-come first-served basis.

**Schedules and more details at**  
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# Just 4 FUN

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**VOICE**

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## Horoscopes



### Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Are you waiting to hear from that special someone? He or she will unexpectedly reach out to you this month. Drop everything or you will miss your opportunity.



### Aquarius

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Inspiration follows you wherever you go. Although you may think your thoughts and opinions are humdrum, you are actually helping others out!



### Pisces

Feb. 19 - Mar. 20

Although you may be tempted to seek outside counsel for a solution to your relationship woes, it is in your best interest to voice those concerns to your significant other.



### Aries

Mar. 21 - Apr. 19

Exercise both the mind and the body. Your inner strength will be reflected outwardly in confidence. Your time would best be spent leading rather than following.



### Taurus

Apr. 20 - May 20

You should trust your instincts. If you are willing to make changes, you will have a fantastic opportunity.



### Gemini

May 21 - Jun. 20

Your creative energy will be maximized. Since Mercury goes direct after retrograde, things will finally feel like they are going smoothly again.



### Cancer

Jun. 21 - Jul. 22

Trust your gut. You may feel that the time is right to make big decisions. Just make sure Mercury returns to its normal route before any major announcements.



### Leo

Jul. 23 - Aug. 22

Some serious creativity will be sparked by travel, education, and ideas! Pay attention to innovations that could turn into a business idea. One major decision will drastically change your finances!



### Virgo

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

You are very practical and hardworking. Trust in yourself and stop stressing out. Now is a very promising time for business.



### Libra

Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

You are all about balance. Something might throw it off, but don't worry! With your ability to coordinate, everything will smooth over.



### Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Being that you are sensitive and intuitive, your instincts are sharper than ever. Pay attention to your feelings. You'll be magnetic in attracting your desires, so focus on what you want!



### Sagittarius

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

After a few exciting weeks, you may have another epic come to light. You will reconnect with lots of like-minded people. Make sure to spend quality time with someone special.

# SUDOKU

Difficulty: 1 (of 5)

3	5		2	1				
	9			4	5		2	
4		8				6		5
6			8			1		
		2			1		9	
				3	7	8	6	
2	3		7			9		
7			1	9	4			6
				8		5		7

9-21-09

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### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

1	3	2	8	6	9	5	4	7
5	8	7	1	2	4	6	9	3
6	4	9	5	7	3	2	8	1
4	9	8	2	1	6	3	7	5
3	6	5	7	4	8	9	1	2
7	2	1	9	3	5	4	6	8
8	5	3	6	9	1	7	2	4
2	1	6	4	5	7	8	3	9
9	7	4	3	8	2	1	5	6

**HOW TO PLAY:**  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

## Get Fuzzy

