

THE MAGAZINE OF FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE

# FSC NOW <sup>2019</sup>

GOING FOR A  
JOY RIDE

## MARTIN LEWISON

MENDING  
HOMES AND  
HEARTS IN  
PUERTO RICO



## A LETTER FROM **President Nader**

When I first arrived at Farmingdale in July 2016, the College immediately created the theme “Powered by Optimism.” It not only symbolized my personal philosophy, but also expressed how I felt about our dynamic, thriving campus. Almost three years later, there is certainly a lot for our students, faculty, staff, and alumni to be optimistic about.

Our enrollment is robust. We remain the State University of New York’s fastest growing college, and one of its most diverse campuses. This is truly a testament to the value delivered by our academic programs and our position as an engine of opportunity.

Given the strength of our instruction, the modernization of our campus infrastructure, and the quality of our remarkable students, it’s no wonder we refer to ourselves as “Selective, Inclusive and Thriving.”

Most important are the results. Our students have extraordinary success in gaining employment in high-paying positions right here on Long Island. You will read and see some of that in the pages that follow.

The important economic impact we have on the Long Island region, our enhanced public profile, and the partnerships we create with local businesses all benefit our current students and our graduates. All of us can be proud of being members of the Farmingdale family.

I have met hundreds of alumni in my time here, and received dozens of comments after the initial issue of *FSCNow* was launched. This issue includes stories both serious and fun that underscore Farmingdale’s success. As we approach our centennial commencement, I look forward to hearing even more of them. The alumni are justly proud of their alma mater and its rich history as part of the fabric of Long Island.

I hope you enjoy this newest issue of *FSCNow*. This second issue includes stories about the volunteer work of our students, our outstanding academic programs and faculty, and our generous and accomplished alumni. Other features reflect our College’s unique history.

Our vision and aspirations are clear: new academic programs, new buildings, continued aesthetic improvements, enhanced student engagement, and a comprehensive fund-raising effort to match our ambitions. Realizing this vision will give the College a bright future that builds on its remarkable past.

Please join us as we strive to make Farmingdale even better. With all of our achievements and our progress, there has never been a better time to be “Powered by Optimism.”

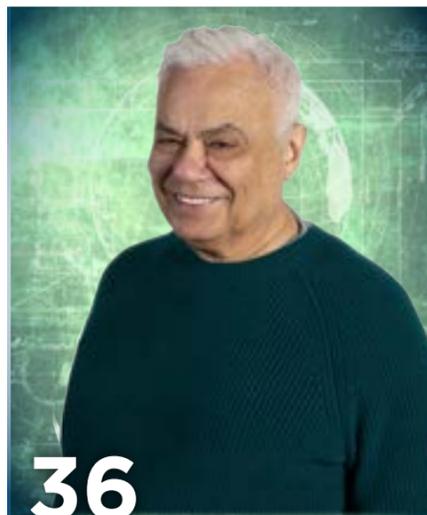
*John S. Nader*

John S. Nader, PhD  
President, Farmingdale State College

**Farmingdale  
State College**  
State University of New York



When you see this icon, visit [fscnow.farmingdale.edu](http://fscnow.farmingdale.edu) to view extended video interviews.



## FSCNOW

**PRESIDENT**  
John Nader, PhD

**VICE PRESIDENT  
INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT  
AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**  
Patrick Calabria

**EDITOR**  
Kathryn Coley

**FEATURE WRITER**  
Peter Crescenti

**CREATIVE DIRECTOR**  
Jonathan Goldstein

**SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER**  
Ru Jurow

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
José Donneys

FSCNow is published annually by Farmingdale State College's Institutional Advancement and Enrollment Management Office. Additional original content is available on our website. Visit [fscnow.farmingdale.edu](http://fscnow.farmingdale.edu).

# FSCNOW

**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT** ..... 2

**MENDING HOMES AND HEARTS  
IN PUERTO RICO**..... 6

FSC students discovered a lot about the people of Puerto Rico, including their upbeat spirit and refusal to surrender.

**ENGINEERING THE PROGRESS OF WOMEN**..... 12

When it comes to advancing women into STEM leadership positions, the School of Engineering Technology is a pioneer.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**A Security Blanket**..... 16

John Liberti and his security systems firm have provided career opportunities for many FSC graduates, and they're not done.

**Giving Back in a Big Way**..... 18

Theresa Santmann is a health care entrepreneur, philanthropist, author, and FSC's own guardian angel.

**A Family Affair**..... 20

Patricia Panetta and Elizabeth Hackenson are grateful alumnae sisters who've had a big impact on the College.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**Kaitlyn Kallansrude '19** ..... 24

A Study Abroad trip to an impoverished neighborhood in Jamaica changed the life of a Farmingdale student forever.

**Messiah Gaymon '19** ..... 26

The SGA President took a winding path to get to where he is, but it's a journey he'll never forget.

**Jamie Jones '19** ..... 28

An ace student raises funds for cancer research and, oh yeah, he's an amazing golfer, too.

## FACULTY PROFILES

**Bringing the World to Farmingdale** ..... 32

When it comes to International Education and Programs, Andrea Thomas, FSC's new interim director is on top of the world.

**Going for a Joy Ride** ..... 34

Business Management professor Martin Lewison has happily enjoyed a roller coaster career—literally.

**It All Adds Up** ..... 36

Carlos Marques, chair of the Mathematics Department, isn't just teaching top students, he's multiplying them.

**THE STARS CAME OUT FOR A GALA EVENING**... 41

A Nursing student and two other awardees shine brightly at the annual President's Gala.

**AND ALSO**..... 23

**ABOUT US** ..... 30

**MEET SEVEN YOUNG ALUMNI**..... 38

**BRAGGING POINTS**..... 40

**WHAT'S NEW ON CAMPUS** ..... 43



## REMEMBERING SCOTT BEIGEL

A victim of the Parkland, Florida shooting, an FSC alumnus is honored for his heroics.



## TURNING BACK THE CLOCK—AND AHEAD

FSC's Centennial Commencement is approaching, so we're taking a trip down memory lane.



## SIX NEW PROGRAMS INTRODUCED

Exciting new majors for the 21st century keep our academic curriculum relevant.



# MENDING HOMES AND HEARTS IN PUERTO RICO

When the call came for help, FSC students answered.  
And in the process they were rewarded with the experience of a lifetime.

Hurricane Maria was a juggernaut that blasted the island of Puerto Rico in September 2017—a brutal, ferocious storm that destroyed homes, flooded neighborhoods, and disrupted electric power for months.

The images of roads clogged with abandoned vehicles, yards filled with mountains of bulging trash, and rotting produce scattered on the floors of empty markets shocked those living on the mainland and abroad.

But while Maria did enormous damage to our largest U.S. territory, the six Farmingdale students who traveled there to help rebuild the island discovered something even more powerful: the upbeat spirit of the people who refused to surrender to the destruction caused by the hurricane.

“The people in Puerto Rico are resilient and some of the most welcoming I’ve ever met,” says Gideon Sherry (Architectural Engineering Technology, '20), who is also a Navy Petty Officer Third Class. “While working on different homes, the owners would invite us in and provide us with cold drinks and lunch when we took breaks, treating us like extended family for the days we were there.”

Francis Gomera (Bioscience, '19) was also visibly touched by the people he met—and by the hospitality they offered, and the determination they bravely displayed in restoring their homes, lives, and the beautiful Caribbean island.

“The locals were very humble and caring,” he says. “It made us feel like we were at home. At no moment in time did I ever feel like I was in someone else’s home. Their kindness took the feeling of being a stranger away. We were waved at and smiled at because everyone supported our efforts to try and make their homes livable again.”

Sherry and Gomera went to Puerto Rico as part of the NY Stands with Puerto Rico Recovery and Rebuilding Initiative—a program launched by Governor Cuomo that sent more than 500 SUNY and CUNY volunteers to the hurricane-ravaged island for two weeks to clean, repair and rebuild homes. Jason DelPesce, Shamika Earle, Amrinder Jawandha, and Navneet Jawandha were other Farmingdale students who also made the trip.

It wasn’t easy making the final cut. Gomera and Sherry competed against 1,500 other students for the first 90 spots. Among other criteria, they had to be in good academic standing and submit an essay describing why this service learning experience was important to them. All six students were in Puerto Rico for two weeks, earning up to three academic credits.

Each visited several locations in Puerto Rico and were astonished that most residential areas were still in ruin, nearly a year later. In some towns, the floodwaters had risen up to 11 feet. Mighty gusts had torn off the tops of schools as easily as peeling the skin off an apple. Automobiles were thrown together in twisted, rusting heaps. Buildings were flattened.

The students also observed a sea of blue tarps covering homes with collapsed roofs, discarded appliances stacked like books, and walls that were ripped away by the cruel winds, leaving only the wooden bones of the buildings.

“I was shocked by how intense the damage was,” says Sherry. “There was a feeling like we were stepping through a ghost town.”



---

**“The people in Puerto Rico are resilient and some of the most welcoming I’ve ever met.”**

---

**Gideon Sherry**

*Architectural Engineering Technology, '20*



---

**“I was shocked by how intense the damage was. There was a feeling like we were stepping through a ghost town.”**

---

**Gideon Sherry**  
*Architectural Engineering Technology, '20*

“When I saw for myself that many houses were completely destroyed, I felt truly sad,” Gomera says. “Many of the houses were passed down from generation to generation, and seeing some of them completely abandoned showed me the magnitude of the disaster.”

The work was extraordinarily hard and the conditions merciless. Jobs were tedious. Days were long and exhausting.

The expedition was especially challenging because there were no heavy tools available. Much of the work had to be done using rudimentary implements, like hammers and nails, and a job as routine as scraping old sealant off a concrete slab roof, priming, and re-sealing took 10 days or more. Working under a broiling sun made the job that much harder—and required ample supplies of sunscreen and mosquito spray.

“On hot days we would be there for hours,” Sherry says. “The homeowner would come out to us and constantly thank us for the work we were doing. At the end, she broke down in tears, hugging everyone and telling us how grateful she was.

“That’s what makes all the work we did really worth it.”

---

 See more from our students in Puerto Rico at [fscnow.farmingdale.edu](https://fscnow.farmingdale.edu).

# ENGINEERING THE PROGRESS OF WOMEN



## Taking the lead.

The naming of a woman as Dean for the School of Engineering Technology was standard for Farmingdale, a leader in appointing females to leadership roles in STEM fields.

So after **Dr. Barbara L. Christe** took over as head of the 2,400-student engineering technology program, she was not surprised to learn about Farmingdale's commitment to gender equity—particularly in science and technology. "The profile of the workforce at FSC suggests a welcoming environment with an administration that supports academics regardless of gender," Christe says.

Yet, the addition of Christe could be considered unusual, given that only 17 percent of deans nationwide in schools of engineering are women and the number for schools of engineering technology is even lower.

But at Farmingdale, there are seven women in the engineering technology faculty, and five of them are in leadership positions—Dr. Bahar Zoghi, acting assistant dean; Professor Orla LoPiccolo, chair of Architecture and Construction Management; Professor Marjaneh Issapour, director of FSC's Renewable Energy and Sustainability Center; Dr. Jeanne Radigan, chair of Aviation; and Dr. Gonca Altuger-Genc, graduate program coordinator.

"I picked engineering because buildings and bridges fascinated me, and math and physics were my favorite subjects," Zoghi says. "As I continued in the engineering field, I became even more captivated with all that engineers do. They solve all sorts of problems."

But women historically have not entered STEM fields in large numbers – even when they've earned a STEM degree. That's according to a 2017 report on women in the STEM workforce and academia by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Christe believes it's possible to improve those figures, especially at an applied science and technology college such as Farmingdale, where women faculty members not only teach, but serve as role models to their female students. She recalls what it was like sitting in a classroom seat when she first thought of engineering as a viable career.

"I struggled to identify a college major when I was finishing high school," she says. "My academic interests and talents were aligned with engineering disciplines, but I worried about the career options after graduation. Few other women were in engineering at the time. In fact, the engineering building on my college campus did not have women's restrooms. But the coursework resonated with me and joining a class of all-male learners became routine."

That's a familiar story for women who pursued STEM education. LoPiccolo also remembers that her passion for science motivated her.

"I entered architecture because I have always enjoyed design and science," she says. "Becoming an architect was the perfect mix of those areas for me."

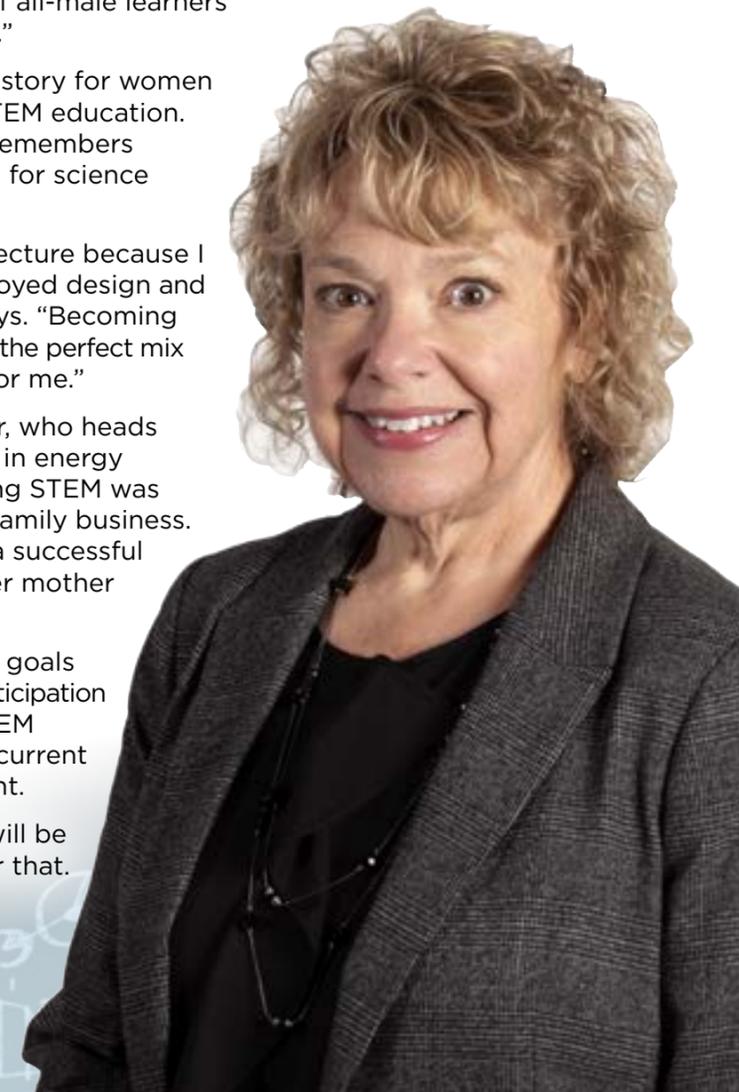
And for Issapour, who heads FSC's initiatives in energy renewal, pursuing STEM was like joining the family business. Her father was a successful engineer and her mother was a chemist.

One of Christe's goals is to increase participation of women in STEM fields above its current rate of 21 percent.

No doubt, she will be able to engineer that.

*Barbara  
Christe*

**"My academic interests and talents were aligned with engineering disciplines."**





MEET THE

# WOMEN

OF ENGINEERING

A Dean and five other women in leadership positions in the School of Engineering Technology—teaching and working in a variety of academic disciplines—set FSC apart from many other institutions. Opportunities for women in STEM fields are nothing new at SUNY’s largest College of Technology and Applied Science.

**Professor Marjaneh Issapour** is director of FSC’s Renewable Energy and Sustainability Center, and teaches in the Department of Electrical/Computer Engineering Technology. She is a winner of SUNY’s Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, and received the R.W. Chasman Award for Women in Science from Brookhaven National Laboratory. In 2018 Issapour was awarded a \$791,000 SUNY grant, the largest grant of its kind ever awarded to a state institution.

**Assistant Professor Gonca Altuger-Genc, PhD**, joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering Technology in 2013. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she serves as graduate program coordinator for the MS in Technology Management. Altuger-Genc has co-authored journal publications and presented in international, national, and regional conferences. She earned the Farmingdale College Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2018.

**Assistant Professor Bahar Zoghi, PhD**, teaches in the Architecture and Construction Management Department and is acting assistant dean of the School of Engineering Technology. She is involved in efforts to increase the number of females in STEM fields, sits

on the College’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics roundtable, and has been a judge and now coordinates FSC’s annual STEM Diversity Summit. She is a professional engineer with 10 years experience in the private sector.

**Associate Professor Jeanne Radigan, EdD**, is chair of the Aviation Department and an associate professor. She is also an alumna of Farmingdale, having earned an AAS degree in Aerospace Technology. She holds an EdD from Dowling College, an MBA from Adelphi University, and a BBA from the University of North Dakota. She previously held numerous positions at Northwest Airlines and was a senior financial analyst at Chase Manhattan Bank.

**Associate Professor Orla Smyth LoPiccolo** is chair of the Department of Architecture and Construction Management and a registered architect. She has over 10 years of public sector experience as an architect and a community development project supervisor. Her students have completed service learning projects with the Town of Brookhaven and the Town of Islip, preparing construction drawings and measuring buildings in preparation for renovations. In 2018 she received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.

L-R: Orla Smyth LoPiccolo, Marjaneh Issapour, Gonca Altuger-Genc, Bahar Zoghi, Jeanne Radigan

# A SECURITY BLANKET

If you've flown a major airline recently, had business with a federal agency, ridden public transportation, or even visited a DMV office, chances are you've been under the protection of Summit Security Services, Inc.

Summit, with headquarters on Long Island, is one of the most highly regarded security service firms in the U.S. It is also one of the premier partners of FSC when it comes to hiring alumni and students, as part of its roster of 4,000 security services personnel across the country.

In fact, more than a dozen of them work at Summit, many under the supervision of the vice president of security operations center **John Liberti**—a 2004 FSC graduate of the Security Systems/Law Enforcement Technology degree.

"I look for mentoring opportunities, to take our employees to the next level," Liberti says. "The relationship with Farmingdale is providing us with a number of smart, eager, business-minded individuals that make this easy to accomplish."

Summit's co-president Robert Auletta, a former member of the Long Beach Police Department, is also impressed with the quality of FSC alumni and students.

"I can't say enough about the graduates from Farmingdale we have hired," he said. They're 'A' people. They've never let us down."

Robert's brother, co-president Nicholas Auletta, agrees. "People from Farmingdale are industrious, intelligent people, and real team players. All things being equal, we would hire from Farmingdale."

## for FSC Graduates

FSC and Summit Security began their relationship in 2016, when the College reached out to Liberti and the Auletta. "We were impressed with Farmingdale, and began trying to figure out how we could get students from their security program," Robert Auletta says. "We thought there would be good synergy there."

The usual point of entry for FSC alumni and students has been the corporate command center. One Farmingdale alumnus who has moved up

the ladder quickly is Matthew Bird ('15), a Security Systems graduate who joined the company right after getting his diploma. Today he is command center team leader, and credits his

time at FSC with helping him succeed.

"Farmingdale taught me how to be responsible and set goals," Bird says. "It taught me to dig deep into my work, because people that come out of Farmingdale have to work. That's why I like hiring people from Farmingdale."

The relationship between Summit and Farmingdale continues to grow. Liberti is a member of the Farmingdale College Foundation board and a Golf Classic honoree, and Summit has been honored by the Foundation with a Ram's Horn Award for Corporate Leadership. And one of Summit's newest employees is Alex Williams, already working full-time as a security operations center operator, who will graduate in Fall '19 with the same degree that Liberti did.

So you could say that the partnership between Summit and Farmingdale is, indeed, secure.

**"THE RELATIONSHIP WITH FARMINGDALE IS PROVIDING US WITH A NUMBER OF SMART, EAGER, BUSINESS-MINDED INDIVIDUALS."**



# GIVING BACK IN A **BIG** WAY

**Theresa Santmann's** connection to Farmingdale is both long and deep. Student. Foundation board member. Philanthropist. And her passion for the College is exceeded only by her generosity.

"Farmingdale provided me with an excellent education and helped shape my success in the health care industry," Santmann says. "I continue to be amazed at the transformation that has taken place over the last few years."

Santmann received a nursing degree from Farmingdale in 1969, propelling her into the health care industry and, eventually, into her role as the founder and operator of a nursing home. She even invented and patented a walker with a folding, pivoting seat. She has been a member of the Farmingdale Foundation board since 2004 and funded scholarships for underrepresented students and nursing faculty, as well as landscaping projects, design projects, and a 9/11 memorial.

And in 2011, Santmann donated the largest gift in Farmingdale's history—\$1 million to support the nursing and bioscience programs—and in turn was honored by the College with the naming of the Theresa Patnode Santmann School of Health Sciences. For her work at Farmingdale and in local communities, she has been honored as Alumna of the Year, a March

of Dimes Woman of Distinction, and was an inductee into the *Long Island Business News* Hall of Fame.

Her extraordinary journey began as one of 12 children on an upstate New York farm. Her career as an entrepreneur after losing her husband to Lou Gehrig's disease is beautifully chronicled in her autobiography *In Gratitude to My Guardian Angel*. The title is apt, especially because Santmann has been an angel for so many worthy causes.

For instance, she designed and built a respite care center for the Suffolk County Girl Scouts, named "In Katie's Care" for her granddaughter. She sponsored 35 students at St. Luke's School in the Bronx, funded a Rotary Peace Conference on conflict resolution, and donated over 11,000 children's books to Long Island Cares.

"Theresa is a remarkable individual," President Nader says. "She was a pioneer in the health care industry at a time when there were not a lot of women entrepreneurs. She has a strong commitment to helping those

who need assistance in acquiring a college education. She loves Farmingdale, and her passion can be seen in so many of the students and projects she has supported."

**"FARMINGDALE PROVIDED ME WITH AN EXCELLENT EDUCATION AND HELPED SHAPE MY SUCCESS IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY."**



SCHOLARSHIP  
SUPPORT



# *a* FAMILY AFFAIR

A connection to Farmingdale. A connection to the SUNY Chancellor. A connection to emerging technologies. The wildly successful careers of sisters **Patricia Panetta** and **Elizabeth Hackenson** are built on connecting with people and innovation.

So when Dr. Kristina Johnson was named SUNY Chancellor in 2018, she invited President Nader to accompany her to an event in Washington, DC where she wanted to introduce him to an FSC graduate she knew. That was Elizabeth.

The two had met when the Chancellor was a board member of a company where Hackenson once worked. They shared a mutual respect and interest in emerging technologies.

From that meeting a relationship was formed that is now supporting a Farmingdale student with a scholarship, an effort of great interest to Hackenson (Secretarial Science, '84) and Panetta (Early Childhood, '80). They are both Farmingdale alumnae, and Panetta has a son who also attended the College. Panetta, herself, still lives in Farmingdale. As a result, the Mary Panetta Scholarship Fund which honors their grandmother provides funding for women returning to complete a degree at FSC.

The sisters have a great interest in education and technology. In fact, Panetta is a member of the Farmingdale Foundation board. She is a curriculum writer and peer counselor at the New York City Department of Education, and an adjunct professor at three universities. Hackenson has served as chief information

officer of multiple top-level companies and is a member of the CIO Hall of Fame. She is now CIO of Schneider Electric in Boston, a global specialist in energy management and automation with operations in more than 100 countries.

"This goes back to our own struggles to pay for college as well as ancillary needs," Hackenson says. "I guess we felt if we could help someone like a single, working mom it was the right thing to do." They are doing so with the scholarship that honors their grandmother who inspired them with hard work and a desire to succeed.

"Our grandmother Mary came from Italy with no money," says Panetta. "She raised seven children. Only two of them were able to go to college because that is what the family could afford. So Elizabeth and I knew of that story. We didn't have a lot of money ourselves growing up and came to Farmingdale because of the low tuition. I feel like we are giving back and maybe helping a single mom who wants a college education."

The evolution of Farmingdale from an agricultural institute into SUNY's largest college of applied science and technology further persuaded the sisters that investing in students was a wise choice. Hackenson remembers pigs roaming the grounds, but when she returned recently, "I didn't even recognize the campus. I'm very impressed by the growth and expansion and the high-tech buildings."

And Panetta says, "I miss the cows. But seriously, I am so impressed with the obvious growth and prosperity of the College."

**"THE CHANCELLOR WAS VERY EFFUSIVE ABOUT WHAT A QUALITY PERSON ELIZABETH IS, AND IT TOOK ME ABOUT FIVE SECONDS TO REALIZE HOW TRUE THAT WAS. WE HIT IT OFF IMMEDIATELY. I WAS REALLY IMPRESSED BY HOW POSITIVELY SHE SPOKE ABOUT HER EXPERIENCE AT FARMINGDALE."** - *President Nader*

**"**OUR GRANDMOTHER MARY CAME FROM ITALY WITH NO MONEY. SHE RAISED SEVEN CHILDREN. ONLY TWO OF THEM WERE ABLE TO GO TO COLLEGE BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT THE FAMILY COULD AFFORD. SO ELIZABETH AND I KNEW OF THAT STORY. WE DIDN'T HAVE A LOT OF MONEY OURSELVES GROWING UP AND CAME TO FARMINGDALE BECAUSE OF THE LOW TUITION. I FEEL LIKE WE ARE GIVING BACK AND MAYBE HELPING A SINGLE MOM WHO WANTS A COLLEGE EDUCATION.

-*Patricia Panetta*

# Remembering SCOTT BEIGEL

Scott Beigel gave more than just his time to his students. Sadly, he gave his life.

Beigel was a geography teacher at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida—Parkland, as the tragic events of February 14, 2018 are now called. The 2009 graduate of Farmingdale had just safely guided students into a classroom when, turning to lock the door, he was shot and killed by the lone gunman. His act of heroism has not been forgotten.

Beigel (BS Technology Studies, '09) was one of three Parkland coaches—he led the cross country team—who were honored with a Best Coach Award at the annual ESPY Gala presented by the ESPN network. In August, the street in Dix Hills, Long Island where Beigel grew up—Hart Place—was renamed and dedicated Scott J. Beigel Way in his honor. The ceremony attracted family, friends, and local and state dignitaries, including Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul.

The Lieutenant Governor used the occasion to praise the anti-gun violence campaign that spread across the U.S. following the Parkland shooting—including a March for Our Lives rally held in Nold Hall that drew more than 2,000 parents and children to the event.

“Someday when someone says, ‘Why is this street named after Scott Beigel?’ there will be a powerful story to tell about a movement that started with his death and the deaths of young people who did nothing more than show up for school one day,” Hochul said.

By all accounts, Beigel was a dedicated teacher, outstanding coach, and an excellent role model. But those descriptions don’t begin to compare with the one that will follow him eternally:

Hero.

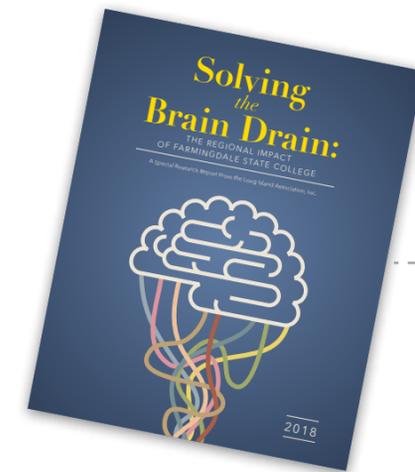


## AND ALSO



**Dr. Kevin Jordan**, former director of the Educational Opportunity Program at FSC, has been named the College’s new chief diversity officer. Jordan joined the President’s Cabinet, overseeing the implementation of campus-wide diversity and inclusion initiatives; compliance with state and College policies; promoting the recruitment of diverse applicants; and training staff on affirmative action protocols. His background includes management roles and oversight of multiple student support programs.

The College’s impact on the Long Island regional economy was \$2.51 billion, according to an independent study conducted by the Long Island Association. The report—**Solving the Brain Drain: the Regional Impact of Farmingdale State College**—examined FSC’s impact from 2009-2017. The report concluded that the College returned five times in economic impact for every dollar invested in the campus by New York State and created nearly 20,000 jobs in that span.



**Farmingdale ranked 8th nationally** in enrollment increase from 2006-16 among public baccalaureate colleges, according to a study by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. The College’s increase from 6,256 to 9,235 in that span represented a 47.6 percent increase in students. Farmingdale was the only SUNY institution to rank in the top 20 in the study, which examined doctoral, master, and baccalaureate universities and colleges. Enrollment in fall 2018 was over 10,000.

**Robert L. Van Nostrand** was elected chair of the Farmingdale Foundation board in June 2018. He is a 1977 graduate of Farmingdale. Among his previous positions, Van Nostrand was senior vice president and chief financial officer for OSI Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a former tenant of the Broad Hollow Bioscience Park located on the campus. He succeeds John Molloy who had served as chair since March 2016. Bob’s wife, Gladys Van Nostrand ('78) is also a Farmingdale graduate.



# KAITLYN KALLANSRUDE

"THEY TAUGHT ME WAY MORE THAN I EVER EXPECTED."



A single encounter can transform the course of a lifetime. For **Kaitlyn Kallansrude** (Professional Communications '19) an extraordinary applied learning experience not only changed her life, but also the lives of 20 eager children she came to know in a modest school building located in an impoverished neighborhood on the island of Jamaica.

Kallansrude was in the Caribbean nation for 11 days as part of the Jamaica Field Service Project. This particular program sends students to the island to do volunteer work in communities, schools, and child care centers. Kallansrude was placed in Fullerswood Primary School in Saint Elizabeth, located in the southwest region of Jamaica and containing a rich mixture of cultures including Dutch, Spanish, Indian, English, and European descendants.

One thread that bound nearly all the diverse people of the region, though, was this: abject poverty that made a lasting impression on Kallansrude.

"If I had to describe my Jamaica trip in just one word, the word I would use is 'unforgettable.' The entire trip was incredible," she says. "It was truly a humbling and profound experience. I will cherish everything I learned in Jamaica forever."

Kallansrude had always wanted to investigate the study abroad opportunities available to

Farmingdale students. But it was only after her older sister, Kimberly, told Kallansrude about her own life-altering experience in Brazil that she intensified her search. Kallansrude was convinced when she learned about the Jamaica program, which is administered through SUNY Potsdam.

Strangely enough, her career path is not teaching. Instead, she wants to work in human resources or public relations. But growing up in a tightly knit family that taught the value of helping others, Kallansrude's desire to do just that was a natural choice.

"I was raised to always be kind and do well for others," she says. "I've always loved the idea of volunteering and giving back. Volunteering just makes me feel good as a person, especially when you see the impact you've made on the lives you helped out."

Wanting to work with children was also a value instilled at home by her mother, Susan, a nursery school teacher.

"I always had a passion for working with kids, and I definitely get that from my mom. My mom has been working with children for the past 27 years. I just have the patience and ability to really connect with children. It is almost like they are drawn to me and look up to me."

# MESSIAH GAYMON

**Messiah Gaymon's** long, winding journey began in Brooklyn, where he lived with his mother and siblings, but without his absentee father. Because his mother had to work multiple jobs in order to support her family, she was unable to provide for them, and they wound up in foster care. Gaymon was five years old.

He went "switching from house to house," he says, hoping for a fit with the right family. It didn't happen until he was 14 years old. His savior turned out to be a man known as Apostle Ronald W. Gaymon—Messiah calls him Dad—who gave him both a stable, loving home and a spiritual education that eventually led to his becoming an associate pastor.

"I give credit to my [adoptive] dad," says Gaymon (Science, Technology & Society, '19). "He took a broken soul and showed me what it was to be loved and what it means to exist. Something I had not experienced having the kind of family I had. He showed me how to believe in the potential that was God-given and that man could never strip away. It's a message I have wrapped my life around and teach others today. Was it easy? No, but as my grandmother used to tell me, the best people in God were all broken."

Now 32, and a husband and a parent, Gaymon will be graduating in May 2019 with Farmingdale having played a valuable role in his life. He will not only be one of the oldest graduates this spring, but one with arguably the most varied experiences. It was only eight years ago that Gaymon was undecided between caring for his cancer-ridden grandmother and enlisting in the Air Force.

She gave him the advice that set his life on a new road. "I had always wanted to enlist, but once I got into

the church, I felt I had a responsibility to cover the people who trusted me," he says. "Then my grandmother was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, and one day while taking care of her she spoke to me about responsibilities versus regrets. She told me to never let what I felt was my responsibility cause me to live a life of regret. Before she passed, she echoed those words in some of her last breaths. A year to her passing I graduated from basic training. So I knew I was in line with my destiny." Working as a maintenance flying crew chief and then senior airman, Gaymon captured 10 medals and awards, including one for saving the lives of his crew from a potentially fatal fire. He left the service at the end of 2015 and began looking for a college that would help him make up his mind about a career.

He chose Farmingdale for its reputation as a veteran-friendly campus. Now he is considering pursuing a law degree. He also runs the College's new American Legion Post and is president of the Student Government Association.

Gaymon joined the SGA as senator and was soon unanimously elected vice president. He immediately began transforming student government, developing a new logo to start rebranding an organization that did not get enough credit for its work. Next, he helped rewrite its constitution and by-laws. His motivation, he says, was to polish the SGA's image.

"What I've taught the SGA is that what we do today is not for us, but to better position the organization for the future."



What is Messiah's favorite part of Farmingdale? Find out at [fscnow.farmingdale.edu](http://fscnow.farmingdale.edu).

"WHAT I'VE TAUGHT THE SGA IS THAT WHAT WE DO TODAY IS NOT FOR US, BUT TO BETTER POSITION THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE FUTURE."



# JAMIE JONES

As a member of the golf team, **Jamie Jones**, knows how rare it is to shoot a hole-in-one. But in his case, you could say he did it twice last year. Jones, (Architectural Engineering Technology, '19) a British native, had a winning 2018, first walking the Great Wall of China to raise funds for cancer research in his homeland, and then taking home the prestigious Elite 90 golf award from the NCAA for outstanding academic achievement.

You may wonder, though, why Jones left England to study in the U.S., and specifically at FSC.

"I traveled to the U.S. for vacations a lot as a kid, and I also lived in Florida from 11-14 years old" he says. "I've always liked the country so that played a big role."

"Then, the architecture degree I'm studying for is a seven-year program in the U.K., so studying at Farmingdale makes it shorter," he adds. "It's also a lot easier for me to play golf and study at the same time in the U.S."

The Great Wall project actually originated with Jones' mother, who in 2017 had trekked across parts of the Himalayas in Nepal. Adventure is in her blood, and she wanted to take a similar journey in 2018.

"She decided she would like to complete another trek and I decided to go, too," Jones says. "The Great Wall—being one of the wonders of the world—is something anyone would want to see." Jones saw plenty, having walked the 40-mile length of the wall in five days.

"The entire trip was a great experience but also pretty tough," Jones says. "Walking included some extremely steep steps up to the watchtowers of the wall and descents through crumbled ruins and small forested areas.

"My highlights of the trip would be the spectacular views and experiencing a different culture in a country so different from the West. In the first 'hotel' we stayed in my bed was supported by a rock in the corner. Food and accommodations in general were always a bit of a shock."

But none of that mattered much when Jones tallied up the money he and his mother raised for Teenage Cancer Trust, a U.K. charity that funds research and assists young adults with cancer. The effort raised \$3,500 and honored Jones' grandfather who died of cancer.

When Jones isn't helping others, he is studying and playing golf, a sport he has pursued for eight years. The opportunity to play competitively for an excellent program was another reason he enrolled at FSC. He competed at the 2018 Division III Men's Golf Championship, winning a prestigious academic award for achieving a 3.87 GPA, the best among the 210 golfers there.

"The award was something I hadn't heard of until about a week before we left for the tournament," he says. "When I was told I'd been nominated. I was still not expecting to win, so when I did I was extremely happy."

For Jones, success is par for the course.



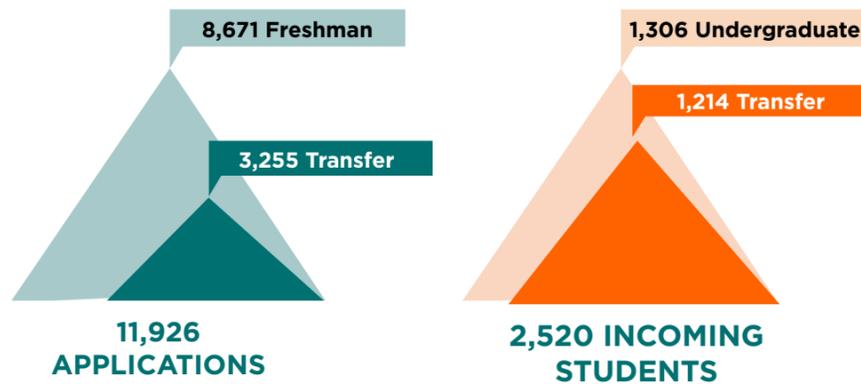
"CANCER IS SOMETHING THAT HAS GREATLY AFFECTED <sup>MY</sup> FAMILY SO ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO HELP FIND A CURE IS WORTH IT."

# ABOUT FARMINGDALE

Farmingdale State College is SUNY's largest college of applied science and technology, focusing on academic programs that equip students with the skills to succeed. Through its applied learning, including internships and clinical placements, Farmingdale's outcomes in employment of students within six months of graduation is extraordinary.

## Student Profile

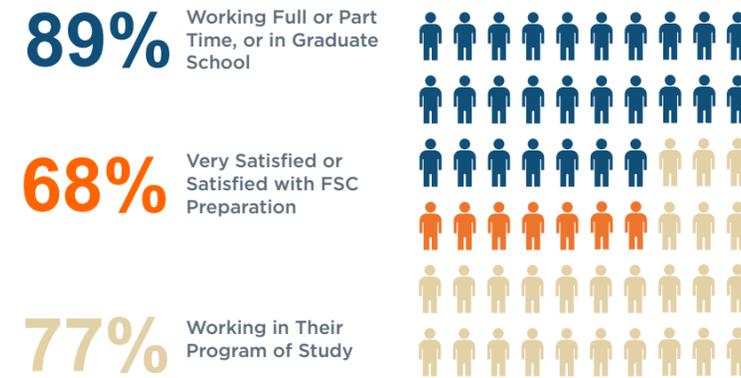
Students who joined the Farmingdale State College community in Fall 2018



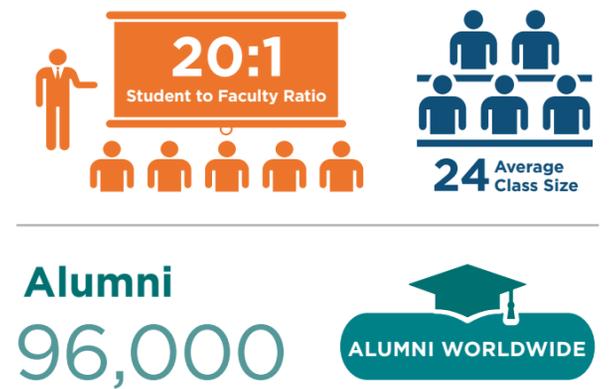
Three-year Average for Freshman General Admits

SAT: 1,114.5  
GPA: 89  
ACT: 22.6

## Outcomes within Six Months of Graduation



## Faculty and Instruction



## Student Life



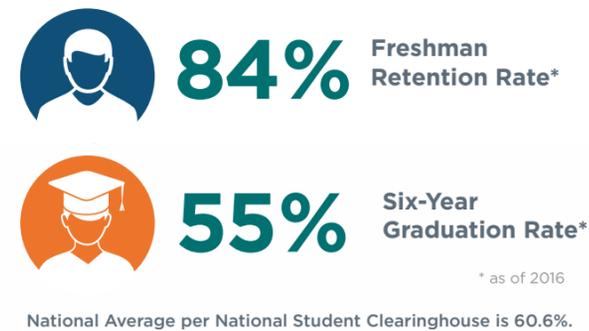
## Student Body



Our students come from all over Long Island.



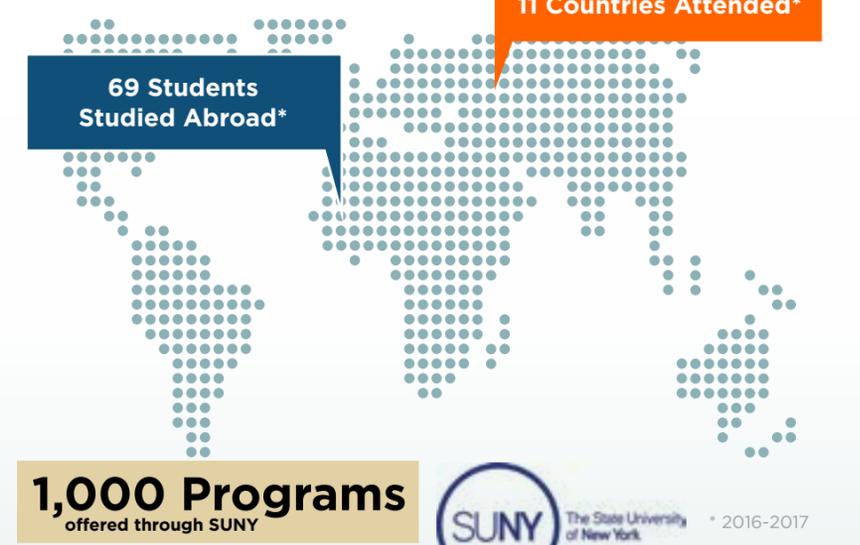
## Retention and Graduation



## Intercollegiate Athletics



## International Study



## Current Costs



NYS RESIDENTS  
\$6,870/yr



OUT OF STATE  
\$16,650/yr



Conveniently located 1 Hour from NYC



Founded 1912

# BRINGING ~ the ~ World TO FARMINGDALE



“The opportunity to live and work cross-continently is a gift,”

says **Andrea Thomas**, FSC’s new leader of International Education and Study Abroad programs. It turns out it didn’t take a trip around the globe to locate the right person for the job. All it took was a journey across campus.

Thomas was director of community engagement and deputy title IX coordinator, managing grant-funded programs and expanding the College’s public service mission. But her numerous and varied experiences across five continents made her an easy and logical choice for her new responsibilities last summer. Who better to build strategic partnerships with international universities and manage overseas educational opportunities for students than someone who has literally been around the world?

“With firm appreciation for learning and teaching methods, I decided that if I could spend time developing minds around the globe, it would be a good idea for me to spend time providing these same opportunities to communities in the U.S.,” she says. “I believe a career in diversity, equity, and inclusion is the catalyst to combine these global experiences to strengthen community and create a bridge to International Education and Programs.”

Thomas has worked in North and South America, Southern Africa, Central America, Eastern Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and the Pacific Rim for such recognized organizations as USAID, the United Nations Development Program, the American Councils for Education, and the U.S. Embassy in Kyrgyzstan—the hardscrabble Central Asian country bordering China. She is also a U.S. State Department alumna and returned Peace Corps volunteer.

In 2014, she was invited by his royal highness, Prince Feisal Al Hussein of Jordan to speak as an expert panelist on volunteer retention strategy at the Generations for Peace Institute in Amman, Jordan.

Those unique experiences have provided a valuable insight into different cultures and behaviors that Thomas believes will serve her well as she attempts to build the population of international and first-generation students. Already, the College has students from more than 70 countries, from Azerbaijan to Zambia.

“It is inspiring to work with youth from around the globe, living so as to affect change, and to observe different strategies, learning, teaching, and administrative practices of institutions outside the U.S.,” Thomas says.

Her total of nearly eight years living in six nations includes facilitating peer-to-peer exchanges between foreign agencies and the U.S., coordinating more than 10 youth exchange programs, and involvement in numerous initiatives related to diversity and inclusion with international organizations such as UNICEF and the Peace Corps.

“It was a warm accomplishment to experience this success after working with dedicated young people and staff,” she says.

Farmingdale is a more familiar environment, but one in which Thomas still sees opportunities to enrich with diverse cultures and traditions.

In short, she’s out to make a world of difference.

*Andrea Thomas*

“It is inspiring to work with youth from around the globe.”



Learn more about Andrea and the International Education program at [fscnow.farmingdale.edu](https://fscnow.farmingdale.edu).

# GOING FOR A JOY RIDE

Dr. Martin Lewison has his

ups and downs...

No, not as a Farmingdale State College professor of business management, but as a member of what he calls the "World of Roller Coaster Geekdom." Lewison is a roller coaster aficionado and he's known worldwide in the amusement industry because of it—the "Cyclone" of experts, if you will.

His expertise has been sought out by such publications and media outlets as the *LA Times*, *Washington Post*, *Orlando Sentinel*, and Sirius XM, who are fascinated by an obsession which began when his sister took him to the now-defunct Palisades Amusement Park in New Jersey when he was just four years old. That visit was followed by trips to Coney Island, Great Adventure, the now-closed Rye Playland, and others. And

the more parks he visited, the greater his appetite for the rides, fun houses, and sideshows grew.

"I loved these visits," he says, "but visiting an amusement park was not as frequent an activity in my family as I would have preferred."

However, his passion went, uh, off the rails during high school, and even more so as he began a career. But behind every theme park geek is a woman; in this case Cheryl, his wife, who herself loved theme parks.

Says Lewison: "We picked it up again together, but we went

**"Leviathan is just big and fast and fun, and I love it. Phoenix has insane pops of ejector airtime, and it's a historic ride in one of the best amusement parks in the world."**

a lot crazier than either of us could have imagined."

So crazy that, from 2009 to 2018, the Lewisons had visited more than 700 parks, from New Jersey to New Zealand, and from China to California—with Vietnam and the United Arab Emirates thrown in for good measure.

As a result of his journeys, he has been quoted by reporters from nearly as many countries as he has visited. His unexpected media exposure began when he gave a presentation on theme park pricing at a theme park expo in Orlando. A local reporter interviewed him—and as a bonus mentioned FSC.

That was followed by a call from the *Los Angeles Times*, whose reporters still rely on Lewison for angles on theme park stories.

"There are an awful lot of theme park experts out there, but news writers also like to get an academic view, and there aren't many professors who focus on the theme park industry," he says.

He teaches a course on theme parks and tourism, in addition to classes on strategy, international marketing, and business history. The theme parks class is often full and he is more than happy to share with his students the number of roller coasters he has ridden throughout the world—an amazing 1,800 and counting—and the strict criteria by which he judges them.

"I keep it very simple: is it fun?" he says. "Are there negative g-forces? I'm not a huge fan of loops or positive g-forces. And that's about it. I like big drops and the feeling of leaving your seat. Bonus points

for smooth rides—poor design and lack of maintenance are not fun. Great theming, unusual elements, cool settings—such as in a forest, or on a mountaintop, height, speed, and the like."

Two stand out for him: "My current favorite steel coaster is 'Leviathan' at Canada's Wonderland, outside Toronto, and my current favorite wood coaster is 'Phoenix,' at Knoebel's in Elysburg, PA.

When he's not riding a roller coaster, Lewison is eating his favorite theme park food, Dippin' Dots. In fact, he has more than 225 photos of the confection taken around the world. He also has 75,000 theme park photos which are posted on Flickr.

After all this time, it's a hobby he still loves—even with all the ups and downs.

## DR. LEWISON'S TOP ROLLER COASTERS

STEEL	<b>LEVIATHAN</b> CANADA'S WONDERLAND ONTARIO, CANADA
	<b>STEEL EEL</b> SEAWORLD SAN ANTONIO TEXAS
	<b>STEEL VENGEANCE</b> CEDAR POINT OHIO
WOOD	<b>PHOENIX</b> KNOEBEL'S PENNSYLVANIA
	<b>EL TORO</b> SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE NEW JERSEY
	<b>LIGHTNING ROD</b> DOLLYWOOD TENNESSEE



To see more of Martin's roller coaster adventures visit his Flickr account (milst1).

# IT ALL ADDS UP

✓ IN THE MATH DEPARTMENT

## “Math is beautiful,”

says **Dr. Carlos Marques**, chair, Department of Mathematics.

“Math is beautiful,” says Anthony Ercolano (Applied Math, '19), echoing Marques' mantra.

“Mathematics has beauty and romance,” says Joseph Bunster (Applied Math, '18), quoting British mathematician Marcus du Sautoy.

But to many of us—who don't know trigonometry from geometry, or an isosceles triangle from a square root—it's a mystery how anyone can be so enamored with a subject that has confounded millions of students for thousands of years.

And yet, the number of those who love math at Farmingdale is, well, multiplying.

“I have to thank the Mathematics Department and my close relationships with professors like Dr. Marques, for helping shape my understanding of the universe while encouraging me to be my very best,” Bunster said.

Bunster was at his best last summer, at the U.S. National Collegiate Mathematics Championship in Denver, placing third among the nation's brightest math students. He won the right to compete by solving the most problems in a month posed by the math faculty at FSC. In 2013, Farmingdale student Javier Garcia took first place in the competition, besting dozens of finalists representing more than 600 colleges and universities across the U.S.

Much of the success of the math students can be attributed to the department faculty, starting with Marques who has been a professor at Farmingdale since 1989, developing a reputation for infecting students with his passion for numbers, equations, and formulas. He has also mentored high school students' prestigious

national mathematics competitions in such topics as calculus sequence, real analysis, topology, multivariable calculus, and calculus on manifolds as an introduction to differential geometry.

“Math is more than just a subject, it's a way of life,” Ercolano says. “I might be a bit radical, but it's like becoming a monk. I don't know how other mathematicians are, except Dr. Marques. He certainly is a monk as well.”

“I love teaching at Farmingdale,” Marques says, “and even more, I like being chair, because I am happy giving direction. I like making an impact with the ideas I have. Whatever is in my mind, I'm glad I can share it.”

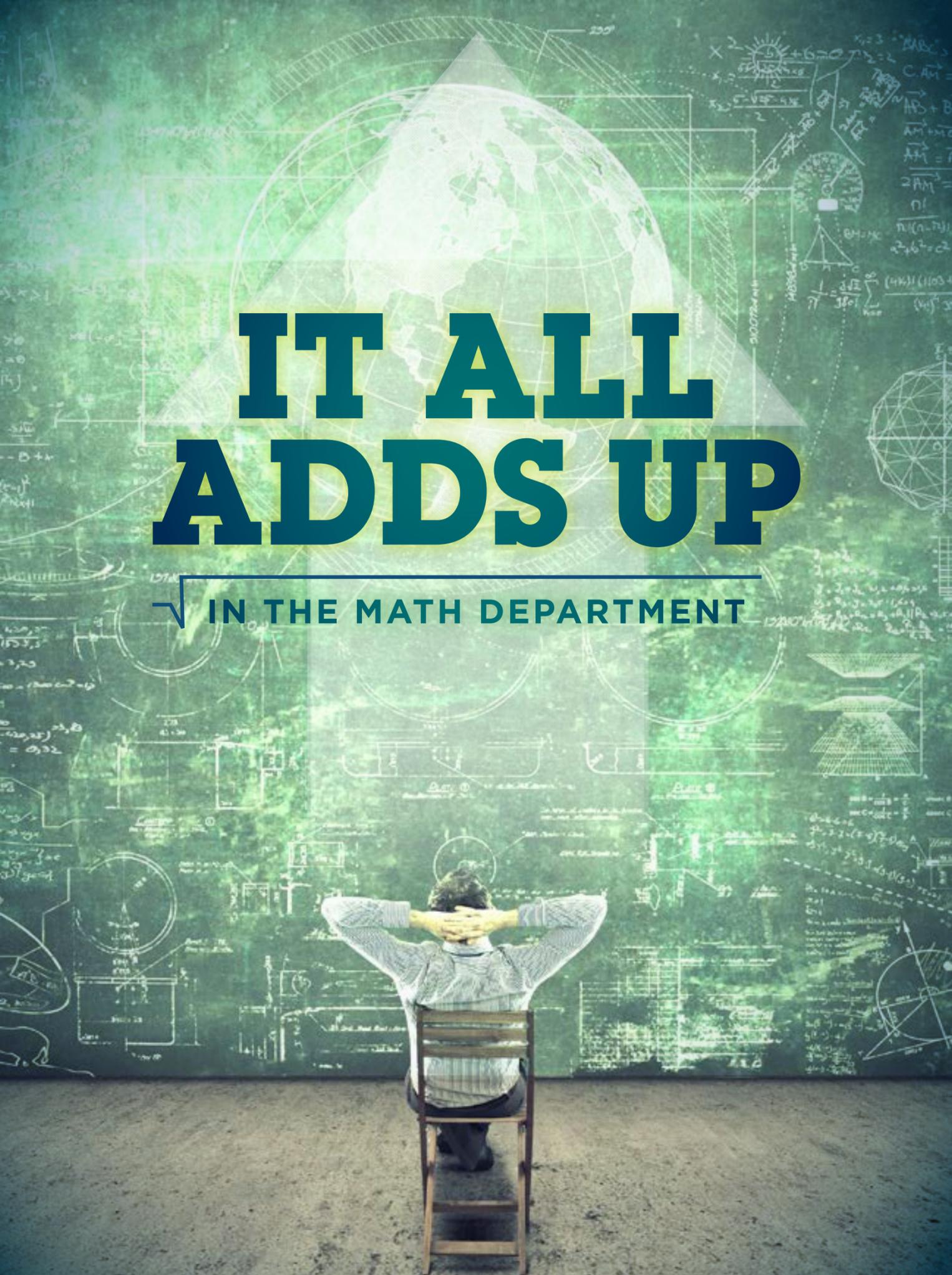
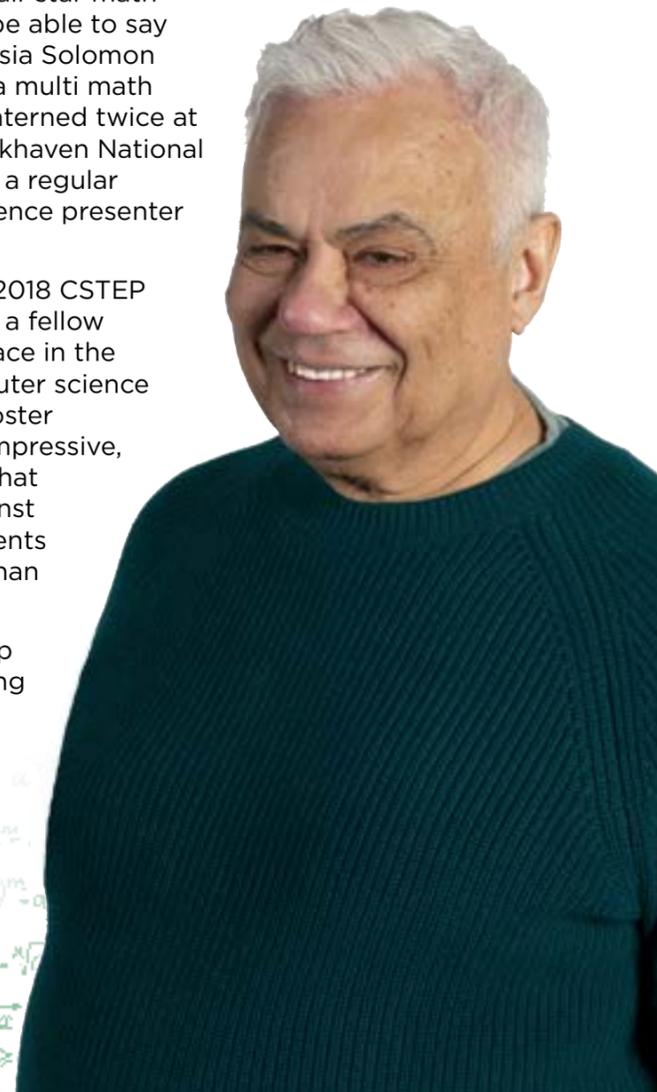
Based on her long list of achievements as an all-star math student, one might be able to say the same about Tunisia Solomon (Applied Math, '18), a multi math award winner who interned twice at the prestigious Brookhaven National Laboratory, and was a regular mathematics conference presenter while at FSC.

For instance, at the 2018 CSTEP Conference, she and a fellow student took first place in the math/physics/computer science category for their poster presentation. Very impressive, when you consider that the pair was up against more than 650 students representing more than 50 institutions.

Bunster sums it all up by once again quoting philosopher du Sautoy: “It's not a boring place to be, the mathematical world. It's an extraordinary place; it's worth spending time there.”

*Carlos  
Marques*

“I love making an impact with the ideas I have.”



# YOUNG ALUMNI



## MEET SEVEN FARMINGDALE ALUMNI

# Making A Difference

**1 Erica Alter** (Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Technology, '16) is studying law at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University. She also completed an externship at Queens Criminal Court and an internship at Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Long Island. She works at the Law Offices of Mark E. Alter, her father. "My time at FSC was one of the best times of my life, spent with amazing people," Alter says. "The public speaking and leadership skills I learned through the student organizations I was a part of have helped tremendously in the pursuit of my goals."

**2 Cecilia Ambros** (Visual Communications, '04) is head of Creative Studios, at Amazon Advertising, North America. Leveraging her background in creative, product and UX, she builds innovation strategies and develops multi-discipline design teams. She led Global Design as a studio director at Nike, Inc. (NFL, Men's Training and Global Football). "I consider friends I have at Farmingdale like family, their impact on my life has been incredible. I'm in their debt and eternally grateful," Ambros relayed.

**3 Wagner Esteban Cepeda Aquino** (degrees in Computer Programming and Information Systems, and Telecommunications Technology, '17) went directly from Farmingdale State College to Silicon Valley, where he was hired as an information technology resident at Google.

**4 David Dávila** (Professional Communications, '13) won a Fulbright Scholarship and taught English to students in Argentina. Now living in Barbados, he and his wife have launched their own coffee business called Dávila Kafe and hope to open their first location on Long Island in 2020. They have also created a scholarship

to help first-generation/immigrant high school seniors pursue college degrees. And he is a co-founder of the Dávila Dream Foundation, empowering young leaders in Nicaragua and the U.S. through education. "Farmingdale has blessed me in many ways," says Dávila.

**5 Abraham Im** (Aviation: Professional Pilot, '15) was valedictorian of his class. Now assistant chief flight instructor at the College's Aviation Center, he was also lead pilot of the FSC contingent at the 2016 and 2017 Jones Beach air shows. "Farmingdale has given me opportunities as a student and employee that I would not have had if I had flight-trained elsewhere," he says. "The College has always challenged me to make the best choices I can, and do the best I can. It has continuously motivated me to better myself."

**6 Hajera Siddiq** (Science, Technology & Society, '14) is a government liaison at United Health Care. A Horace and Amy Hagedorn Fund scholarship winner while at FSC, she worked for three years at the Clinton Foundation after graduating, moved on to do research at Yale, and then became a consultant to the Obama Foundation.

**7 Roman Titov** (Construction Management Engineering Technology and Architectural Technology, '09) is project manager for Brooklyn-based Perfetto Contracting Co., Inc. Titov was a Fulbright Scholar who went from Farmingdale to the University of Calgary, where he earned a Master of Science in Civil Engineering. In 2016, he earned a degree in City and Regional Planning from Rutgers University. "When I was attending Farmingdale the motto was 'Dream Big,'" Titov says. "I have found inspiration in those two words throughout my life, and I continue to do so."



FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

Graduation is hardly the end of your Farmingdale State College connection. It's the kickoff to lifetime membership in a community of more than 96,000 alumni. On campus or on the other side of the globe, in person or online, you can always connect with Farmingdale.

The dedicated staff and volunteers from the Alumni Association will help you get all the benefits of being a Farmingdale alum. No need to sign up. You are already a member for life.

Plus, the Alumni Association offers unlimited opportunities to build your career connections and skills, find friends old and new, attend special events, take classes, and give back to the Farmingdale community. Farmingdale alumni even get special discounts at local restaurants, athletic events, the campus bookstore, and much more.

Visit [farmingdale.edu/alumni](http://farmingdale.edu/alumni) to update your alumni information.

We are eager to catch up and connect you with the College and with each other.



For more information about the Alumni Association, please contact: **Michelle Johnson, Director of Alumni Engagement and Stewardship** at [Michelle.Johnson@farmingdale.edu](mailto:Michelle.Johnson@farmingdale.edu) or call 631-420-2369.

# BRAGGING POINTS



 **The Renewable Energy and Sustainability Center** received \$790,000 in state funds to create new certificate programs in partnership with public and private industry. The College will develop offerings in environmental sustainability, including wind power, as well as in hybrid vehicles, and natural gas. The announcement was made by Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul and SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson at a ceremony on campus. The funding is part of the state's Climate Jobs NY work force training program.

 **Money Magazine** ranked Farmingdale on its 2018 list of Best Colleges for Your Money. **Washington Monthly** - #1 in U.S. in net pricing, and #34 best value at baccalaureate-granting colleges. **Lend.edu** - #46 among 500 in least ParentPLUS Loan debt, lowest on LI, 2018-19. The **U.S. News and World Report** ranked Farmingdale #7 in the category of best public colleges in the North.

 **Joseph Clabby** became the sixth honoree inducted into the Aviation Hall of Fame. Clabby has been an adjunct professor of aviation for 14 years, following a 25-year career with the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Army. A security team leader at JFK International Airport, he is the CEO of Corporate Loss Prevention Associates, a company he formed in 1980 that provides security officers, security services, and screening equipment to more than 90 carriers in the U.S.

 Athletics teams captured **Skyline Conference Championships** in golf, women's soccer, men's outdoor track, and women's outdoor track during the 2017-18 season. Kristy Nix was named Skyline Coach of the Year in volleyball while Keith Osik (baseball) and Chris Mooney (women's basketball) joined the 300-win club. There were 102 FSC student-athletes named as Skyline



The Skyline Conference women's soccer champions

Scholar Athletes. Overall, 136 student-athletes compiled a 3.0 or higher, the most ever.

 Adjunct associate professor in Mechanical Engineering Technology **Robert Seyler**, instructional support specialist in physics **Solomon Ayo**, secretary in the School of Arts and Sciences **Denise Botiglione**, secretary in the School of Engineering Technology **Peggy Sullivan**, and secretary in Mechanical Engineering Technology **Tara Zajack** were named winners of the CARES Award at the fall 2018 Convocation. The award is presented annually to the faculty, professional staff, and classified staff for service to the community. CARES stands for Commendation and Recognition for Exceptional Service.

 The **Small Business Development Center** was recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration with an Excellence and Innovation Award presented during National Business Week. The SBDC, headed by **Erica Chase-Gregory**, was honored for its programs in supporting the development of entrepreneurs.

 **Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence** were presented to **Robert Adolfsen**, Mechanical Engineering Technology; **Bradley Correia**, Nursing; **Emily McCue**, Nursing; **Daniel Parks**, Mechanical Engineering Technology; and **Matthew Schinasi**, Applied Psychology.

 The **Roller Hockey Club** repeated as winners of the National Collegiate Roller Hockey Association Division-I national championship. The team went 7-0 and outscored its opponents 62-4 in the tournament, which was held in Fargo, N.D. Farmingdale is one of only four such programs to become a repeat champion in NCRHA history.

 The **National Science Foundation** awarded FSC and **Dr. Erwin Cabrera**, associate director of the RAM program, a grant of nearly \$300,000 to provide underrepresented minority PhD students with training in pedagogy and classroom teaching experience. The grant will also fund technology enhancements in innovative teaching practices and laboratory materials as well as improve the College's capacity to mentor and support PhD students in STEM fields. This is the first direct grant FSC has received from NSF.

# THE STARS CAME OUT FOR A GALA EVENING

Nursing has been good to **Lauren D'Arco** ('18). Better yet, Lauren has been good for nursing.

As a nurse "extern" last summer shadowing hospital staff, D'Arco impressed the management of Northwell Health, one of the largest health care systems in the nation, with her knowledge, skill, and dedication. As a result, she was offered a position as pediatric registered nurse at Cohen Children's Medical Center, in New Hyde Park, Long Island. She was honored by the recognition of her ability—but not for the last time.

In fact, she has been cited by FSC for outstanding academic performance—earning a place on the President's List every semester—and service to the campus and Long Island communities. She received three scholarships for her work, including the prestigious Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship from SUNY'S Association of Council Members and College Trustees.

And in November, she was the recipient of the President's Award for Student Leadership at the President's Gala.

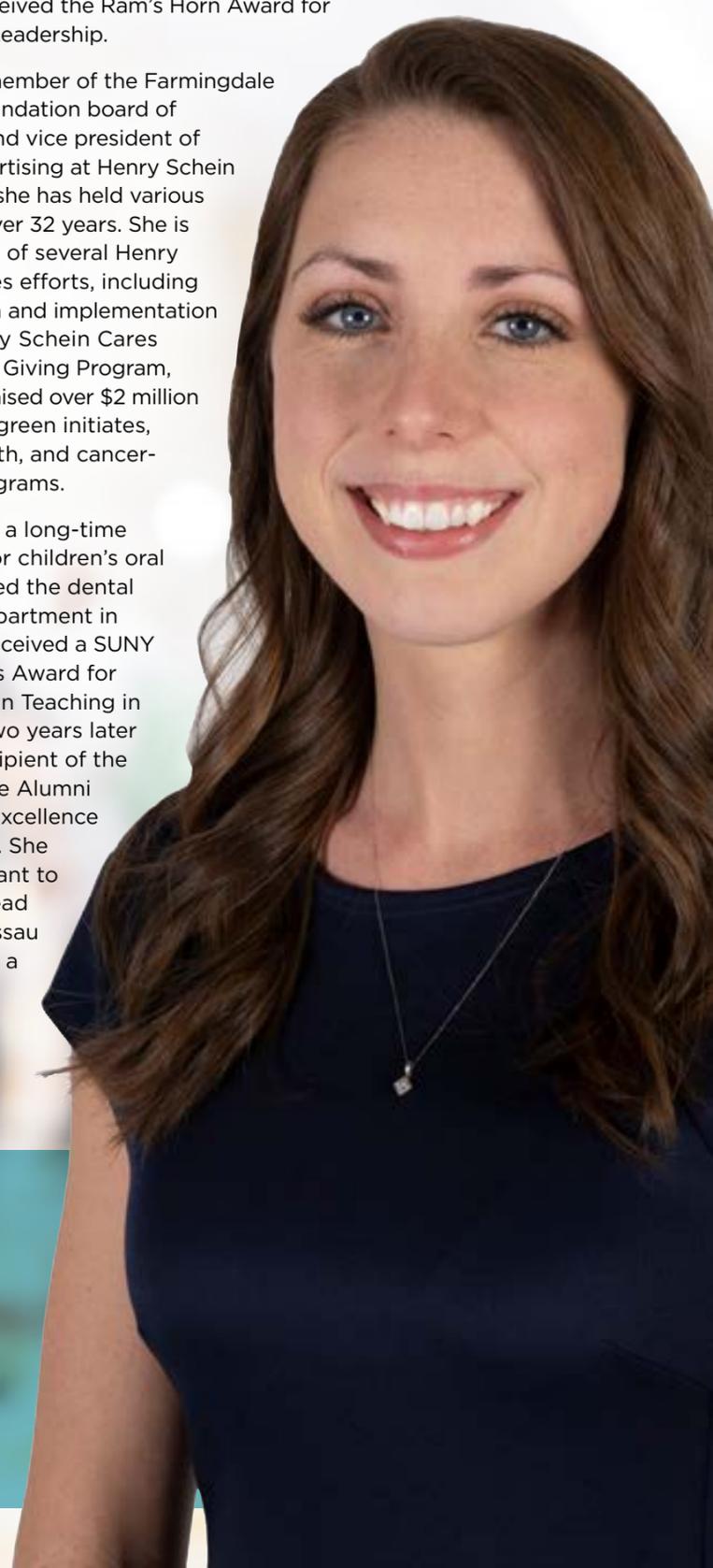
"I was thrilled to be named an honoree," D'Arco says. "There are so many bright students at this college, and to be recognized is truly an honor."

Three hundred people attended the Gala to honor her as well as **Maureen Knott** (Secretarial Science and Word Processing '84), who received the President's Award for Alumni Leadership, and long-time Dental Hygiene professor **Sharon Struminger** (Dental Hygiene '66), recipient of the President's Award for Faculty Leadership.

Finally, **Aramark**, the food provider to the College, received the Ram's Horn Award for Corporate Leadership.

Knott is a member of the Farmingdale College Foundation board of directors, and vice president of dental advertising at Henry Schein Inc., where she has held various positions over 32 years. She is a key driver of several Henry Schein Cares efforts, including the creation and implementation of the Henry Schein Cares Calendar of Giving Program, which has raised over \$2 million to support green initiatives, overall health, and cancer-related programs.

Struminger, a long-time advocate for children's oral health, joined the dental hygiene department in 1968. She received a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2001 and two years later was the recipient of the Farmingdale Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching. She is a consultant to the EOC Head Start of Nassau County and a member of the Health Advisory Board.



## THE PRESIDENT'S AWARDS Celebrate Three Distinguished Individuals



AWARD FOR ALUMNI LEADERSHIP

Maureen Knott '84

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Lauren D'Arco '18

FOUNDATION FOR FACULTY LEADERSHIP

Sharon Struminger '66

# TURNING BACK THE CLOCK—AND AHEAD

THE YEAR WAS  
**1919**

PROHIBITION WAS THE LAW. WOMEN WERE ABOUT TO GET THE RIGHT TO VOTE. WOODROW WILSON WAS PRESIDENT. AND A YOUNG PITCHER OF SOME NOTE WAS TRADED FROM THE BOSTON RED SOX TO THE NEW YORK YANKEES—HIS NAME WAS BABE RUTH.

FARMINGDALE GRADUATES THAT YEAR WERE READING ABOUT THE FORMATION OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, DEBATING THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND, PERHAPS, FUMBLING WITH A NEW-FANGLED INVENTION CALLED THE ROTARY TELEPHONE.



BACK THEN, HICKS HALL (THE HORTICULTURE BUILDING) AND CUTLER HALL (THE AGRONOMY BUILDING) WERE THE CENTERPIECES OF THE CAMPUS. BUT KNAPP HALL WAS ABOUT TO OPEN AS THE NEW DINING HALL AND THE PICKLE PACKERS ASSOCIATION HELD ITS ANNUAL MEETING AT THE DIRECTOR'S COTTAGE. YES, THINGS WERE REALLY HAPPENING AT THE NEW YORK STATE INSTITUTE OF APPLIED AGRICULTURE ON LONG ISLAND.



 IN FACT, THE FIRST COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY WAS TAKING PLACE.

“WE HAVE A RICH AND FASCINATING HISTORY,” SAYS PRESIDENT NADER. “SO 100 YEARS LATER, IT’S TIME FOR US TO CELEBRATE WHERE WE HAVE BEEN, WHERE WE ARE, AND WHERE WE ARE GOING.”

IT’S NO WONDER WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT IN MAY. FROM 15 GRADUATES IN 1919 TO OVER 1,000 THIS SPRING, FARMINGDALE HAS CONTINUED TO GROW IN ENROLLMENT, IMPORTANCE, STATURE—AND EVEN NAMES. THE NYSSALI (NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE ON LONG ISLAND) GRADUATES OF 1919 COULDN’T HAVE ENVISIONED THE CAMPUS OF TODAY: CLASSROOMS EQUIPPED WITH COMPUTERS, THE SPRAWLING CAMPUS CENTER, A UNIQUE SOLAR CARPORT, SYNTHETIC TURF ATHLETIC FIELDS—AND AN IDENTITY THAT HAS EVOLVED OVER TIME TO BECOME FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE.

## Farmingdale State College

State University of New York

# WHAT'S NEW ON CAMPUS

- 1 **New landscaping** and wide, stone walkways have eased the flow of pedestrian traffic—especially with our booming enrollment. More lighting and poles with banners have given the campus a real sprucing up.
- 2 Located behind the Campus Center, the new **Amphitheater** opened in September 2018. It has quickly become a popular gathering place for students, faculty, and staff as well as a venue for many ceremonies and musical performances.
- 3 The **women's softball field** was completed in fall 2018 and features synthetic turf, lights, and dugouts. A centerpiece of the Nold Athletic Complex renovation, it is home field to our perennial Skyline Conference powerhouse.
- 4 **The Great Room** of historic Ward Hall has been given a facelift. Constructed in 1914, the building now has a cozy first floor which serves as a place to host receptions and presentations while preserving our rich legacy.



PLEASE JOIN US

- APRIL 14 RAM RUN 5K
- APRIL 23 FOUNTAIN FEST EARTH DAY FAIR
- MAY 21 CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT

## WHAT IT COST IN 1919

FORD MODEL T \$300 	GAS .25/GAL 	COFFEE .45/LB. 
GALLON OF MILK 28¢ 	BREAD .12/LB. 	HOME \$1,298 
HOUSEHOLD INCOME \$1,500 		

# Staying Relevant

## Six New Programs Introduced

From its pioneering work in environmental sustainability to the cutting-edge technology employed in the classroom, Farmingdale has always been a leader in innovation. FSC's leadership has never been more apparent than with the announcement of six new degree programs that provide career paths in emerging industries and underscore the College's critical role in regional economic development.

The new offerings are in high-demand career paths and provide additional curricular options for both prospective and existing students. Launched nearly simultaneously, the sextet of programs—**Business Analytics**, **Computer Security Technology**, **Nutrition Science**, **Geographic Information Systems**, **Health Promotion and Wellness**, and **Interaction Design**—are the result of extensive marketplace research and painstaking development.

Of the six new degree programs, five of them are either the first of their kind in SUNY or exclusive in the Long Island region. They follow the introduction of the College's first graduate program, **Technology Management**, which began in fall 2017.

Visit [farmingdale.edu/future](http://farmingdale.edu/future) to learn more about these exciting programs.





## MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to student success, Farmingdale State College delivers exceptional academic and applied learning outcomes through scholarship, research, and student engagement for Long Island and beyond. FSC's commitment to student-centered learning and inclusiveness prepares graduates to be exemplary citizens equipped to excel in a competitive, diverse, and technologically dynamic society.

## Administration

John S. Nader, PhD, *President*

Laura Joseph, EdD, *Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Patrick Calabria, BA, *Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Enrollment Management*

Nancy Connors, MS, *Vice President for Development and Alumni Engagement*

Tom Corti, PhD, *Vice President for Student Affairs*

Kevin Jordan, EdD, *Chief Diversity Officer*

Greg O'Connor, MBA, *Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer*

## College Council Members

Patricia Hill Williams, EdD, *Chair*

Kenneth A. Card Jr., EdD

Paul F. Caroleo, BS

David M. Curry, Esq., JD

Randi Shubin Dresner, AS, *Honorary LLD*

James E. Durant, MA

Kathleen Ferrell, BS

Richard Redmond, BS

Robert K. Sweeney, MPA

Messiah Gaymon, Sr., *Student Representative*

## Farmingdale College Foundation Officers

Robert Van Nostrand ('77), *President*

John Witterschein, *First Vice President*

Maureen Knott ('84), *Second Vice President*

Nancy Connors, *Executive Director*

Robert E. Sandler, Esq., *Treasurer*

## Alumni Board Officers

Joe Egan ('70), *President*

William Jimenez ('10), *Vice President*

Sylvia Nicosia ('04), *Secretary/Executive Director*

Richard Lahn ('05), *Treasurer*

Michael O'Rourke ('73), *Foundation Liaison*

# Farmingdale State College

State University of New York

2350 Broadhollow Road  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
FARMINGDALE, N.Y.  
PERMIT NO. 4

