

PRESIDENT'S
ANNUAL
REPORT | 2020

CONNECTING



TOMPKINS
CORTLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Tompkins Cortland Community College

In last year's annual report, we introduced you to the framework of our Strategic Plan. Little did we know that our Strategic Plan – which typically offers thematic guidance for the work of choosing academic programs, developing retention initiatives, and instructing our community relationships and interactions – would provide the bedrock philosophy to guide us through a historic, seismic shift with the COVID pandemic.

We said “Connecting” was the driving force behind our mission and goals. This year tested that in ways no one could have predicted, and in ways we will likely spend decades fully understanding. I am proud to say that in spite of the world-historic challenge presented to us, we were able to connect with our students, our communities, and each other in deep and surprising ways.

The work of our academic mission never ceased, as we developed innovative course delivery to maximize the efficiency of technology but also allow for safe in-person instruction, which we know is still so instrumental in our students' success. We instituted comprehensive testing and quarantine protocols supported by additional surveillance testing through a partnership with Cayuga Health System and were able to complete the semester with no on-campus transmission. We also were able to support students in our residence halls throughout the semester.

In addition to on-campus initiatives, this was a year in which we further strengthened our commitment to our surrounding communities. With numerous job-focused offerings, such as Certified Nurse Aide training and Certified Recovery Peer Advocate training, as well as the development of a new Cybersecurity degree program and numerous job-ready micro-credentials, we continued to offer students of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to thrive in an economic environment undergoing drastic changes.

Through it all, we continued to see our students succeed. We honored them at two graduation ceremonies held virtually and were proud of their remarkable will and persistence. We reconnected with alumni already giving back to their respective communities and saw our students win Chancellor's Award and Student-Athlete honors. We saw our students support the Black Lives Matter movement and work toward social change in meaningful ways.

In a year in which almost everything seemed uncertain and the challenges at times seemed overwhelming, we persevered as a community and as a college. Our students demonstrated remarkable resiliency as they worked within myriad new requirements and succeeded. My hope for the next year is to see those deep connections lead to continued success for our students and our communities in a world we can only hope will stabilize.



Orinthia Montague

Orinthia Montague, Ph.D.
President of Tompkins
Cortland Community College

CONNECTING



CONNECTING STUDENTS TO THE COLLEGE



CONNECTING THE COLLEGE
AND THE COMMUNITY



CONNECTING TO RESOURCES



CONNECTING TO EMPLOYERS



CONNECTING TO EACH OTHER

CONNECTING TO STUDENTS



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS SCHOLARSHIP

A new scholarship supports students in Cortland, Tompkins, and Tioga Counties who have not previously enrolled in a degree program at the College and want to “Try Us on for Size” at \$50/credit for part-time study up to six credits.

“With the pandemic still affecting people in so many ways so close to home, we knew we had to make an effort to make educational opportunity even more accessible. The Community Connections Scholarship gives local residents a chance to start on their path to a degree – and along with that new job opportunities and security – with a significantly reduced financial burden,” said College President Orinthia Montague. “We know there are good, high-paying jobs available in our area for people with the right skills. This gives them a chance to get those skills and – with our various online, in-class, and hybrid options – do so with a flexible schedule that fits their busy lives.”

To qualify, county residents must never have previously attended the College and they must submit a valid Certificate of Residence from their county treasurer’s office.

To be eligible, students must have not previously matriculated in a degree program at Tompkins Cortland, and must be enrolled in a Spring 2021 session only for part-time study. Even as part-time students, scholarship recipients can matriculate in a Tompkins Cortland degree program.

For more information, visit the [Community Connections Scholarship page](#).

Associate Professor of English Kerry Curran teaches in person in the fall

“QUARANTEAM” PROVIDES STUDENT SUPPORT

Knowing we were facing an unprecedented fall and wanting to ensure our students knew they had support as they faced the same challenges, the College developed the “Quaranteam” to provide social, logistical, and academic support to students fulfilling quarantine requirements.

The team connects students to a variety of services:

Virtual healthcare appointments
Over-the-counter medication
Cafeteria meals + Panther Food Pantry supplemental nutrition
Hygiene and assorted grocery needs
Trash removal
Laundry
Tutoring + academic support
TC3 Library
Social events like virtual yoga, web-based puzzles and games + all virtual student life events

The Quaranteam played an essential role in a successful residence life experience in Fall 2020 – retention among on-campus students was stronger than that of the general population and the school was recognized by the SUNY Chancellor for its aggressive and effective response to containing COVID spread and successfully encouraging compliance amongst our students.



We said it all semester,

WE GROW STRONGER TOGETHER



COURSE TYPES FLEXIBILITY AND ACCESS

The College offered seven types of courses in the fall, allowing students to build schedules that worked with their lives and allowing them a level of comfort without sacrificing access to in-person teaching and professors.

- Course Type 1 | On-Campus Meetings
- Course Type 2 | On-Campus and Live Online Meetings Blend
- Course Type 3 | On-Campus and Online Asynchronous Blend
- Course Type 4 | Live Online Meetings
- Course Type 5 | Live Online and Online Asynchronous Blend
- Course Type 6 | Online Asynchronous
- Course Type 7 | Online Flex

The yeoman’s work of Campus Tech, buildings and ground staff, and our professors and instructors allowed for development and execution of these courses throughout the fall.

A YEAR OF RECOGNITION



FULBRIGHT AWARD

Professor of History David Flaten was awarded a Fulbright Award by the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and will teach at the Technological University of Pereira in Colombia as part of a project to teach graduate and undergraduate courses on “Human Uses and Adaptations of the Natural Environments in the Americas” during the spring semester of 2021.

ACADEMIC ALL-REGION ATHLETES

Seventeen Tompkins Cortland Community College student-athletes were recognized as Academic All-Region by Region III of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). Each of the honorees had a G.P.A. over 3.5.

Adebodun Ademoyo | men’s soccer

Brianna Allen | women’s soccer

Megan Ball | volleyball

Kassidy Egan | volleyball

Natasha Feocco | volleyball

Jessica Fisk | women’s soccer

Erin Harkenrider | volleyball

Madison Hartenstein | volleyball

Kadija Hill-Custis | volleyball

Kaw Ler Hser | men’s soccer

Andrew McDaniel | cross country

Alexander Russell-Cook | men’s soccer

Joey Shufelt | lacrosse

Joseph Tummino | baseball

Carmelina Vigliotti Martinez | softball

Breanna Wendel | volleyball

Finn Wise | lacrosse

Tompkins Cortland students, staff, and faculty were honored by numerous organizations in 2020.

SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence

Lana Esho | Liberal Arts and Studies: General Studies

Casey Smith | Business Administration

SUNY Chancellor’s/Trustees’ Awards

Sandy Moser | professor of nursing | Excellence in Teaching

Kerry Curran | assistant professor of English | Excellence in Teaching

Jonathan Walz-Koeppel | database administrator in the campus technology department | Excellence in Professional Service

Teri Evener | secretary in the student success department | Excellence in Classified Service

Marjolein Schat | adjunct assistant professor of biology | Excellence in Adjunct Teaching

In addition to the SUNY Chancellor’s/Trustees’ Awards for Excellence, the College also recognized exceptional employees within the Faculty Student Association. These awards were chosen by the FSA Board of Directors.

Anthony Isaacs | resident director | Program Development and Management

Tamara McMullen | head teacher in the childcare center

Robert Rice | athletics facility and event coordinator and head coach for women’s soccer | Program Support

ADOPTING A WELLNESS MODEL

As part of a larger plan that as accelerated by pandemic-related needs, the College is moving to a comprehensive wellness model incorporating the College’s health center, counseling, collegiate recovery program, and food pantry into the new TC3 Health and Wellness Services Office.

Under this new model, Health and Wellness Services will work collaboratively to share information, efforts, resources, and best practices. “This model really centers the student in our mission,” said Health and Wellness Services Director Matt Kiechle. “It not only unifies our services for staff, but it also means the efforts we make in one area to better assist students seamlessly cross over into the other Wellness areas and ensure students are getting immediate access to all the support services they need.”

MEET THE STUDENT TRUSTEE ADEBODUN ADEMOYO

The College’s new student trustee, Adebodun Ademoyo, is the rare student who cannot only tackle the College’s demanding Nursing program, but also succeed on the playing field as a Panther AND serve the student body on the board of trustees.



Ademoyo, who graduated from Seton Catholic Central High School in Binghamton, has made the Dean’s List twice, received the President’s Citation for completing 30 credit hours with a GPA above 3.8, been inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and been named an Academic All-Region athlete on the men’s soccer team.

CONNECTING STUDENTS TO THE COLLEGE

ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Sayre Paradiso

Sayre made an impression on the College before she even graduated, serving as President of the Alliance for Recovery Community and working in the health office – so much so that we hired her after her December graduation.

READ THE WHOLE STORY





ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Hilina Tiba

Hilina graduated from the College while raising a family and working as a Financial Management Assistant for the City of Ithaca, all while being named to the Dean's List every semester and being inducted into PTK and being named the Accounting Program's Graduate of Note. She now attends Ithaca College.

**READ THE
WHOLE STORY**

APPLIED LEARNING GRANT

The College was the recipient of a SUNY Applied Learning Grant that allowed us to hire a coordinator to focus on developing and expanding upon innovative opportunities for our students to participate in internships, fieldwork, and other programs to develop clear pathways to achieving academic and career goals.

While the College already offered nearly 50 courses with an applied learning component, this position, staffed by Caryanne Keenan, allows for the College to centralize our efforts and connect students, faculty, and community members with SUNY's Applied Learning resources.



CONNECTING THE COLLEGE TO EMPLOYERS

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE TRAINING

Addressing a local, regional, and national healthcare need, the College added a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) program to its offerings this year. The intensive three-week program prepares students for a career in healthcare, complete with classroom and lab training, as well as clinical experiences at Cayuga Medical Center or Guthrie Cortland Regional Medical Center.

Tompkins Cortland's CNA program has been approved by the New York State Education Department to prepare students for the Nurse Assistant Certification. With a total of 125 hours of training, students will be instructed on topics including basic nursing skills, infection control.

CERTIFIED RECOVERY PEER ADVOCATE

The College also offered, in partnership with Tompkins Cortland BIZ, a course preparing students for work as a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate – a field with immediate job openings in the area.

The seven-day course is designed for anyone looking to learn the skills to guide, mentor, and support anyone who would like to enter into or sustain long-term recovery from an addiction to alcohol or other drugs. Graduates complete the course with a certification needed for employment.

MICRO-CREDENTIALS EXPAND

The College continued to expand its offerings of micro-credentials: short for-credit programs often designed in conjunction with local employers looking to fill job openings with skilled workers. Offerings now include Direct Support Professional, Special Education Advocacy, Residential Aide, Risk Management, Early Childhood Assistant, and Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant.



CONNECTING TO EACH OTHER



TC3 VOTES

Led by Coordinator of Diversity Education and Support Services Timothy Thompson and Associate Professor of English Kerry Curran, the TC3 Votes non-partisan campaign to increase voter registration, turnout, and civic engagement on campus, tabled at the front entrance this fall and was able to register 40 students to vote.

The effort involved collaboration with the student club STAND, creating flyers and other promotional materials directing students to a one-stop web resource for voting for students to learn about voter registration, absentee ballots, extended voting, and polling place locations/hours.

NICARAGUA STUDY ABROAD TRIP CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

In a typical year, the College offers a robust selection of study abroad opportunities, with trips to Central America, South America, Europe, and Asia. But the one that started it all goes back a quarter century, when a group of nursing students went to rural Nicaragua, learning about the culture while providing much-needed health services.

The Nicaragua trip, again led by Professor Paula Moore and Adjunct Instructor Paul Treadwell in pre-COVID 2020, has become one of the highlights of the year for both the College and the communities we visit. The study abroad experience is worth six-credits, starting with anthropology and health classes in the fall to prepare for the two-week adventure in January. Although a popular fixture of the Nursing program, the trip is open to any student with a passion for health, education, and cultural exchange.

The Nicaragua trip is the longest running trip the College offers, but far from the only one. With trips to Ireland, Italy, Cambodia, and Colombia, plus dozens more available to our students through our partnership with SUNY Cortland, our students cover the world.

STUDENT-PRODUCED KE'LAB GOES LIVE

While the pandemic forced a delay to the in-person launch party, the third issue of Ke'lab, the College's student-produced literary and visual arts journal, was made available online at kelabmag.weebly.com this past May. Students worked remotely using project management apps and video conferencing to complete the publication on time.

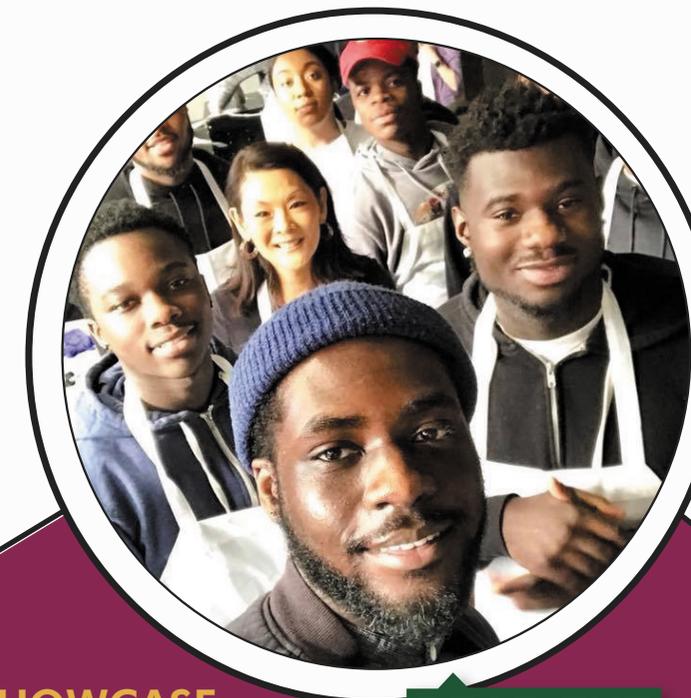
Ke'lab is focused on developing collaborative art and writing pairings. The publication is typically printed at the end of the spring semester each year, the culmination of the course ALEX 249, and an interdisciplinary course that gives students valuable job-ready skills as they work in a environment more like working for a real publication than a classroom.

COLLEGE COMMUNITY PRODUCES COLLABORATIVE BLACK LIVES MATTER DIGITAL QUILT

Under the direction of Graphic Design Program Chair and Associate Professor Christine Shanks, the Tompkins Cortland community created digital quilts in support of global protests against police brutality and in support of Black Lives Matter in June. The project was featured in the History Center in Tompkins County's permanent archives, and was the first quilt to be on permanent display at the Center.

Current students, alumni, staff, and faculty are invited to contribute to the project, which will continue to grow as more voices are heard.

The entire project can be seen at kelabmag.weebly.com/blm-project.



ALUMNI SHOWCASE William Yeboah | Make it Zesty

William began exploring his interest in Caribbean cooking while still a student at the College, and turned that into Make it Zesty!, an international cuisine catering company and online culinary academy

**READ THE
WHOLE STORY**

NURSING STUDENTS HONORED FOR WORK AT COVID-19 SAMPLING CENTER

Tompkins Cortland Community College nursing students Dominic Barrett and Sara McKee were honored by Cayuga Health System for their volunteer work at the COVID-19 Sampling Center this past March. Martin Stallone, president and CEO of Cayuga Health, paid tribute to the two students at a small ceremony.

Barrett and McKee, both residents of Ithaca, were in their final semester in the nursing program at Tompkins Cortland, and each had been doing clinical hours at Cayuga Medical Center (a member of Cayuga Health System) prior to the arrival of COVID-19 in our community. When Cayuga Health decided to open an off-site sampling center, Barrett and McKee both volunteered to help. The two spent part of the College's extended spring break working at the new sampling center, which is located in a vacant store space at The Shops at Ithaca Mall.

College President Orinthia Montague attended the ceremony, along with nursing faculty members Lisa Seyfried and Kim Ligas, who joined Stallone in presenting the students with nursing pins and certificates.

STEAM VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMPS

In lieu of a offering a planned on-campus camp, the College got creative this summer and offered STEAM virtual summer camps through partner Black Rocket, a national leader in tech-education. The camps, designed for ages 8-14, offered cutting-edge courses with topics such as coding, game design, eSports, virtual reality, and more.

COLTIVARE TEAMS WITH UNITED WAY ON MARDI GRAS FUNDRAISER

The College and its Coltivare culinary center were excited to host a Mardi Gras event in support of the United Way of Tompkins County – thankfully before the pandemic hit. The celebration on Tuesday, Feb. 25 brought together many members of the community for an evening of great food and great fun, all while raising money to support local programs through the United Way's Community Care Fund.

The event was a spectacular success, thanks in large part to the staff at Coltivare, the New Orleans menu from Coltivare Executive Chef Patrick Blackman, music by the Fall Creek Brass Band, and celebrity bartenders including our very own president, Orinthia Montague.



READ THE WHOLE STORY

ALUMNI SHOWCASE *Kira Reed*

A graduate of the College's storied nursing program and a resident of Cortland, Kira worked as a traveling nurse at the Roosevelt Island Medical Center in Manhattan in Spring 2020.

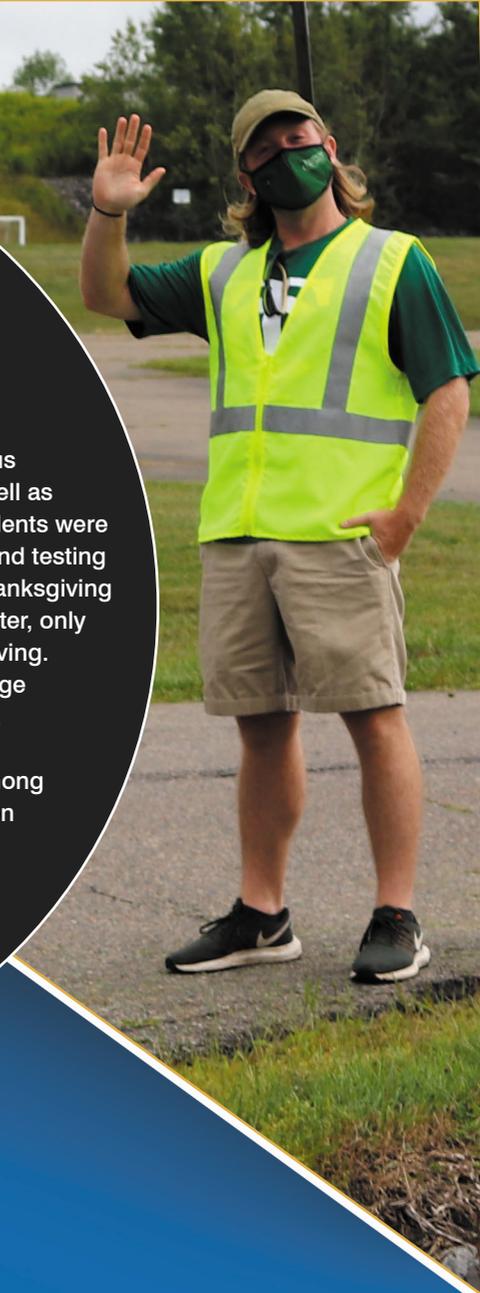
ANGEL TREE FUNDRAISER

Knowing this would be an extremely difficult holiday for so many members of our community, college staff and faculty pitched in to support around 60 Angel Tree tags, sponsoring gifts for children in Cortland and Tompkins Counties.

TESTING AND MORE TESTING

A partnership with Cayuga Health Services allowed for numerous on-campus testing opportunities throughout the semester, as well as access for students to the Ithaca Mall testing site. Resident students were required to test negative upon arrival at the College in the fall, and testing again throughout the semester, including prior to leaving for Thanksgiving Break. The College administered 1,481 tests through the semester, only needing to revert to an all-remote model once prior to Thanksgiving. Following guidance from health officials and the state, the College switched to predominantly remote after the Thanksgiving break.

Thankfully, although the College did see positive test results among its population, there were no cases of transmission in class or on campus during the semester.



CONNECTING TO THE COMMUNITY

CONNECTING THE COLLEGE TO RESOURCES



HELPING HANDS FUND DONATIONS MATCHED BY SUNY

The newly renamed Helping Hands Fund at the College continued its expansion for Fall 2020 in an effort to help students navigate the continuously hard-to-predict education environment – and this time with SUNY matching donations up to \$50,000.

Founded by former College Trustee and community leader Beverly Baker, the fund expanded in the spring to include needed technology for online learning, such as computer tablets, internet connectivity, and specialty software needs – in addition to its traditional assistance with emergency expenses such as unanticipated medical and transportation needs.

It also expanded to accept donations – made even more impactful by SUNY’s commitment this year to match up to \$50,000 in donations to student relief funds on individual campuses.

Anyone interested in helping to continue the work started by Beverly Baker can support the Helping Hands fund by donating to the Foundation at tompkinscortland.edu/foundation/donate-online.



COLLEGE BUDGET

	2018-2019	2019-2020
EXPENDITURES		
Instruction	21,968,413	16,667,354
Academic Support	2,612,620	2,911,423
Library	862,236	841,500
Student Services	5,439,263	5,148,602
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	3,878,957	3,968,370
General Administration	2,524,211	2,348,113
General Institutional Services	3,463,450	3,810,157
	3,463,450	3,810,157
Total Expenditures	40,749,150	35,695,519
REVENUES		
Student Tuition and Fees	20,752,693	14,936,954
New York State	10,613,687	10,479,311
Local Support	9,166,908	10,029,254
Other Revenues	215,862	250,000
Total Revenues	40,749,150	35,695,519



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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