

April 19, 2023

ALUMNA EXCELS AT RIDER UNIVERSITY AND IS HEADED FOR MEDICAL SCHOOL

Adversity hit Sanjana Butala at the wrong time. She used Middlesex College to make things right.

“Middlesex College built a lot of confidence in me, not only in terms of learning leadership skills, but it acted as the launchpad for my career,” Butala said. “The greatest thing was how welcoming the faculty were. I am still connected to so many of them. The connections I was able to build at Middlesex helped me create a second family.”

Born in New Brunswick in 2000, Butala moved back to her family’s native India after second grade. She had always planned to return to the U.S. to complete her college education, with the help of a relative who had offered to help pay for her schooling. She had always dreamed of being a doctor.

But then everything went awry. Butala’s relative wasn’t able to help at the last minute. Butala arrived back in New Jersey in August of 2019 needing money for school and a place to start her college education.

Enter Middlesex College.

“A friend suggested coming to Middlesex and my mom had studied for a year there and said it would be a good place to start,” Butala said. “I tell people I found Middlesex in a strange way, but it set up my education for my life.”

Butala applied for financial aid and found a job at the Middlesex College New Brunswick Center in the fall of 2019. Within a month, she had risen to a leadership position, and was studying biology.

During her time on campus, she served as president of the Indian Student Association and the New

Brunswick Center Student Club, and President of Service for Phi Theta Kappa.

After graduating from Middlesex College in May 2021 with an Associate degree in Biology Pre-Professional Science Transfer, Butala transferred with a full scholarship to Rider University. Butala will graduate from Rider this May and has been selected as the Class Valedictorian. Butala has been accepted to three different medical schools and is contemplating which one to attend. She would like to work in underdeveloped countries as a reconstructive surgeon helping burn victims and children with facial deformities, perhaps through a charitable organization.

“Whatever I have got, it’s just unbelievable,” Butala said. “It’s almost impossible to have dreamed that I have come this far and I thank Middlesex College for that.”



Sanjana Butala '21

Biology Pre-Professional Science Transfer

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS

COLTS FOREVER

Memories of Middlesex

April is Community College Month! As part of the month-long celebration, Middlesex College will spotlight the inspiring individuals who make up our alumni community. Here are just two of the amazing alumni who are proud to be Colts forever.



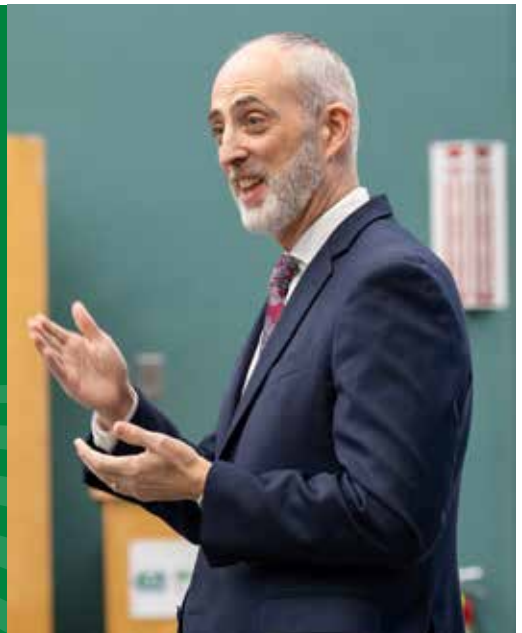
Zamen Haider '19 is currently a fourth-grade special education inclusion teacher in Montgomery Township. It was at Middlesex College that he decided to pursue a career in education. He went on to earn a bachelor's and master's in education from The College of New Jersey. "I look back at my days at Middlesex and I can truly say that without my professors I would not have been able to make such a smooth transition to a four-year school and to the work field," he says.



Katie Meyer '11 currently works at CNN as a producer and editor, working with a multitude of people to get shows on air every night. Having bounced around from one news organization to another, she picked up new skills as she moved up the ladder in the news industry. "My path has been varied and has changed with technology. Middlesex College taught me the value of starting small and working my way up to something big. It also taught me how to stand out in a crowd," she says.

ERIC CARNEY '93 IS NAMED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Carney serves as the President and CEO of Monmouth Medical Center and Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus and was featured as part of the Middlesex College Foundation Alumni Speaker Series. He began his career in healthcare as a respiratory therapist at RWJBarnabas Health. Over the course of two decades, he steadily climbed the leadership ranks. He served as an administrative director of respiratory care at Clara Maass Medical Center in Belleville, and later, in numerous positions of increasing responsibility across the health system, including administrative director of clinical operations and assistant vice president of clinical operations at Union Hospital. Carney will share his story with the Class of 2023 at Commencement on May 18.



MEN'S VOLLEYBALL'S DEBUT SEASON ENDS WITH A FLOURISH

The Spring 2023 semester marked the inaugural season of NJCAA Men's Intercollegiate Volleyball on the national level, and Middlesex College was one of four two-year schools in New Jersey that competed. Among those schools, the College placed second in the regular season with a 9-9 record. Head Coach Myia Williams led the Colts to the playoffs, where they won their first-round game against Union College before falling in the championship to Ocean County College. Michael Nycz was named the Garden State Athletic Conference and Region XIX Player of the Year and Tyler Ryan received First Team Garden State Athletic Conference and First Team Region XIX honors for their outstanding play. The other two-year colleges in New Jersey who competed this season were Ocean County College, Passaic County Community College and Union College.



20 STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO THE INTERNATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY



Middlesex College's Kappa Eta Chapter of Kappa Pi recognizes the creative and academic achievements of students majoring in the visual arts, advertising, graphic design, photography, media arts and design, and gaming and animation. This year's exhibition, "Innovations from the Studio," was designed, curated and installed in the Studio Theatre Gallery by the students, and is an example of the exemplary work created in the Visual, Performing and Media Arts Department.

MSI (Edison)	Corporate Education and Training Director Vega	Discussed team leadership training for employees
Silverline Building Products (North Brunswick)	Corporate Education and Training Director Vega	Discussed training for employees
Woodstock Farms (Edison)	Corporate Education and Training Director Vega	Discussed ESL training for employees

Wednesday, March 15	Middlesex County Teen Arts Festival	Middlesex College Edison campus
Thursday, March 16	New Jersey Science Olympiad	Middlesex College Edison campus
Sunday, March 19	Camp Middlesex Open House	Middlesex College Edison campus
Thursday, March 23	North Brunswick High School College Fair	North Brunswick
Tuesday, March 28 and Wednesday, March 29	East Brunswick High School Instant Decision Days	East Brunswick
Friday, March 31	Middlesex County Recovery Court Resource Fair	New Brunswick
Tuesday, April 4	Collier High School College Fair	Wickatunk
Wednesday, April 12	Perth Amboy Magnet School Job Career Fair	Perth Amboy
Wednesday, April 12	South Amboy High School Admissions Presentation	South Amboy
Tuesday, April 18	Arthur L. Johnson High School College Fair	Clark
COMING UP: Sunday, April 23 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Middlesex College Open House	Middlesex College Edison campus
Multiple times	Admissions Information Session*	Virtual events
Multiple times	FAFSA on Demand Workshop*	Virtual events
Multiple times	I've completed my application, what's my next step?	Virtual events
Multiple times	Paying for College Info Session*	Virtual events
Multiple times	Health Programs Information Session	Virtual events
On an ongoing basis	Live chat appointments*	Via the web

*in English and Spanish

Wednesday, May 10*	Board Committee meetings	Via Zoom
Wednesday, May 17 8:30 a.m.	Board meeting	West Hall, Parkview Room and via Zoom

*All morning (to be determined)