

June 21, 2024

DUAL ENROLLMENT GIVES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AN EARLY ADVANTAGE ENTERING COLLEGE

Participating in the Dual Enrollment program at Middlesex College while still in high school gave Anika Bukkapatnam a head start and a new perspective.

"It was one of the best experiences of my life," said Bukkapatnam. "I met people from all different backgrounds going through the program. Being in that space really helped my development as a person, especially with my empathy and understanding."

The Dual Enrollment program is open to high school students at over 40 participating high schools in

Middlesex County, allowing them to take classes to earn credit toward a high school diploma *and* an associate degree simultaneously.

Bukkapatnam earned 60 credits at Middlesex College and was awarded her Associate of Arts degree in Sociology at Commencement in May. She has been accepted to the Honors College at Rutgers University where she plans to study microbiology and biotechnology.

The South Brunswick native learned about the Dual Enrollment program when she was a sophomore at the Woodbridge Academy Magnet School. She always had an eye on working in the medical field, but she took advantage of the College's broad array of course offerings to broaden her interests.

"I took everything from public speaking to Spanish to Anatomy to Geometry and Calculus," Bukkapatnam said. "This opened up a new lens of challenging education for me and gave me a humanist view of what I am going to do next. This is something that is a little lacking in today's world and I think it will be a big influence to have that mindset moving forward."

Bukkapatnam will graduate from high school this month. She said she enjoyed the Middlesex College experience, including the chance to spend time with College President Mark McCormick. She recommends the program to other students like her and has already helped recruit her younger sister Anuja.

"Definitely, 100%," Bukkapatnam said. "She's going to be a freshman in high school next year and she went to the [Middlesex College] Open House and is planning ahead. She knows this is what she wants to do when she gets into high school."



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS

TASSELS TURNED: CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2024!

Middlesex College faculty, staff, and distinguished guests joined graduating students and their families to commemorate the College's 57th Commencement. The College awarded degrees and certificates to 1,492 students who comprise the Class of 2024.



A RITE OF PASSAGE WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO THE NURSING AND DENTAL HYGIENE PROFESSIONS

The Nursing Program and Dental Hygiene Program held their end-of-program pinning ceremonies for the graduating students of the Class of 2024. Pinning ceremonies are a tradition that signifies that these graduating students are ready to join their profession. Congratulations to our newly-minted nurses and dental hygienists. On another congratulatory note, this year's graduates from our Dental Hygiene Program achieved a 100% pass rate on the ADEX licensing exam.



CLOSING OUT A WINNING SEASON

The Softball team, which led the nation in batting average and on-base percentage, finished this season with a 23-5 record and were the co-champions for the regular season in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region XIX.

The Baseball team finished its regular season with a 33-20 record and qualified for the NJCAA Region XIX playoffs as the #4 seed. The 33 wins marked the third straight season the team has topped 30 wins, the first time in program history.



Academy for Urban Leadership (Perth Amboy)	President McCormick, Vice President Laureano, Assistant Dean Rodriguez Gregory, and K-12 Partnerships Director Hooper	Met with new AUL Lead Person to explore expansion of Dual Enrollment opportunities
Hackensack Meridian Health JFK Memorial Hospital (Edison)	President McCormick, Acting Vice President Orosz, Dean Duzgoren-Aydin, Assistant Dean Howell, and Nursing Program Director Kaldawi	Met with JFK Memorial Hospital Chief Hospital Executive Amie Thornton to explore opportunities for the College to provide training for Hospital employees
Rutgers University (New Brunswick)	President McCormick and Vice President Laureano	Met with Enrollment Management leaders at RU-NB to explore Dual Admissions partnership

Thursday, May 16	Rae Kushner Yeshiva College Fair	Livingston
Tuesday, May 21	Admissions Presentation to youth from the Middlesex County Youth Action Board	Edison campus
Thursday, May 23	Churchill Junior High School College Fair	East Brunswick
Friday, May 24	South River High School College Fair	South River
Wednesday, May 29	Amazon Career Choice Fair (for Amazon employees)	Edison
Wednesday, May 29	New Brunswick Health Science High School Admissions Presentation	New Brunswick
Thursday, May 30	Middlesex College Alumni Association Fundraiser event at the Somerset Patriots – Information Table	Somerset
Thursday, May 30	Middlesex County Young Men's Conference – Information Table	Edison campus
Thursday, May 30	Sayreville High School College Fair	Sayreville
Tuesday, June 12	Job Fair at ZPA – Information Table	Perth Amboy
Multiple times	Admissions Information Session*	Virtual events
Multiple times	FAFSA on Demand Workshop*	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

Thursday, July 4	Independence Day	
Monday, September 2	Labor Day	
Wednesday, September 11*	Board Committee meetings	Via Zoom
Wednesday, September 18 8:30 a.m.	Board meeting	In-person location TBD and via Zoom

*All morning (to be determined)