

MARY ZIMMERMANN RECEIVED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Congratulations to Board of Trustees Vice Chair Mary M. Zimmermann, Union '01, who received the 2019 Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award from the Union County Commission on the Status of Women. She was chosen for this award due to her outstanding contributions to the Union County community.

On March 29, at the annual Women of Excellence Gala Awards Dinner, Mrs. Zimmermann was presented the award by Union's Associate Professor of Chemistry Sherry Heidary who serves on the Advisory Board for the Commission on the Status of Women.

Mrs. Zimmermann is a steadfast advocate for the needs of Union students and the College. She has been a member of the College's Board of Trustees for more than a decade, serves on the College's Board of Governors, and is a member and prior Chair of the Union County College Foundation Board. Her advocacy for the College expands beyond her role on the Boards. She is Vice Chair of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC) and serves as the Board's liaison to NJCCC. On a national level, Mrs. Zimmermann serves on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) and regularly represents the College at ACCT events.

Mrs. Zimmermann is a self-described professional volunteer. She has been an active member of SAGE Eldercare's "Meal on Wheels" program and the "Loaves and Fishes" Food Pantry at St. Teresa of Avila Church. She is one of five commissioners for the Summit Housing Authority, which assists with affordable housing for low income residents of Summit. She also finds time to assist the United Way of Summit. She works tirelessly to improve the lives of Union County residents.



Union County College Board of Trustees Chair Victor M. Richel, Mrs. Zimmermann, and Union County College Board of Governors Vice Chair Lawrence D. Bashe.

UNION COUNTY COLLEGE FOUNDATION PROVIDES \$1.1 MILLION IN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS



The Union County College Foundation held their annual Scholarship Reception for donors to meet the recipients of their scholarships. More than \$1.1 million in support was distributed this year and scholarships were issued to more than 700 students. Approximately 225 guests were present to celebrate the occasion between students and donors.

J. Anthony Manager, Esq., Chair of the Union County College Foundation Board and a member of the College's Board of Governors, welcomed the attendees and thanked everyone for their support. This year, the Foundation announced that 14 new scholarships were created to support Union students. Student speaker Raquel Costa, a member of the class of 2020 from Union Township, addressed the audience and spoke about how her life has been transformed thanks to the financial support. She stated, "When I first received my scholarship, I thought it just meant not having to worry about money, but after some time, after becoming immersed in my college community, I've seen that it means so much more. It opens so many more doors than just the financial ones. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to have a meaningful college experience, one filled with knowledge and happiness and memories to last a lifetime."

Union County Freeholder Vice Chair Alexander Mirabella was joined by Freeholders Sergio Granados and Rebecca Williams to congratulate all the scholarship recipients, especially those who were named as Freeholder Scholars. Freeholder Granados addressed the attendees and shared that he too was once a Union student and that their time at the College will prepare them well for their futures.

IOTA XI PTK CHAPTER WON NINE AWARDS AT REGIONAL CONVENTION

Union's Iota Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa won nine awards at the annual Middle States 32nd Regional Convention held from Mar. 15 to 17 in Harrisburg, PA. Two PTK officers joined Assistant Professor of Psychology/Sociology and co-advisor Dr. Rama Lohani-Chase for the convention.

Iota Xi won the Honors In Action Project Award (theme: Powers of Connection), the College Project Award, the Middle States Gold Chapter Award, the REACH Rewards Chapter Award (16 stoles were given to the chapter), the Distinguished Chapter Award, and the Distinguished Chapter Officer Team Award. Dr. Lohani-Chase received the Paragon Advisor Award.

The Officer Awards are given are based on the recipient's demonstration of leadership, promotion of Honors in Action and other engagements in the Society. Iota Xi President Hyunjoon Sim, of Linden, received the Distinguished Chapter President Pin and the Distinguished Chapter Officer Pin was awarded to the Vice President of Service Alexis Woolridge of Union.



With Iota Xi members is Brian Gómez, PTK President at Bergen Community College (left), Iota Xi President Hyunjoon Sim, and Jeffery Drajin currently serving as Iota Xi's Community Leader of Leadership.

EOF STUDENTS ATTENDED THE ANNUAL EOF STUDENT DAY



EOF Student Services Generalist Daniel Langford, Director of EOF Ruben Melendez, Carla Charles and Enrique Hidalgo of Elizabeth, Anthony Raymond of Union, and EOF Student Services Generalist Gillyam Suazo.

On April 5, Union's Educational Opportunity Fund students attended the Annual EOF Student Day at the Capitol in Trenton. The day was dedicated to empowering students to speak on behalf of and to advocate for the resources and funding of EOF. Union students had the opportunity to network with other EOF students and tour the state capitol.

UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE HELD PANEL DISCUSSION ON CAREERS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT



At the table are members of the Union County Prosecutors Office. From left are Chief Vince Gagliardi, Detective Katelyn Prata, Lt. Gary Webb, Acting Prosecutor Michael A. Monahan, Detective Sarai Lavandero, and Capt. Harvey Barnwell. Standing at the podium is Dean of Elizabeth Campus Dr. Lester Sandres Rápalo.

On April 11, Union students interested in careers in law enforcement attended a panel discussion comprised of seven members from the Union County Prosecutor's Office, including Acting Prosecutor Michael A. Monahan. A main theme throughout the presentation was the importance of diversity in policing. The panelists explained that as public servants it is important to represent the community in which one serves. Union County ranks among one of the most diverse areas in the nation so there is a need and demand for women and men of all backgrounds. Students also learned that they do not have to major in criminal justice to work in law enforcement. The skills taught in many majors will apply. This event was held in the Kellogg Building at the Elizabeth campus. Present from the College were Dean of Elizabeth Campus Dr. Lester Sandres Rápalo and Director of Public Safety Joseph Hines.

UNION COUNTY WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT SHARED THEIR STORIES WITH UNION STUDENTS



Summit Mayor Nora Radest, Freeholder Rebecca Williams, Freeholder Chair Bette Jane Kowalski, Westfield Mayor Shelley Brindle, Assemblywoman Nancy F. Muñoz, Berkeley Heights Mayor Angie Devanney, and Union's Secretary of the Boards and Director of College Relations Dr. Jaime Segal.

As a part of events scheduled in recognition of Women's History Month, the College hosted a Union County Women in Government panel discussion that was held at the Cranford campus on March 22. Moderated by Secretary of the Boards and Director of College Relations Dr. Jaime Segal, six elected officials from the state, county, and municipal levels covered topics on what inspired each of the women to run for office, challenges they have faced along the way, the impact of women voters, and advice for the next generation of young women who will run for office. At the end of the discussion, Union students had the opportunity to participate in a question and answer session which resulted in a lively discussion amongst students and panelists.

HISTORY CLUB VISITED GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE



On April 6, Union students in the History Club visited the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, NJ. Grounds for Sculpture is an outdoor sculpture park that opened to the general public in 1992. It has more than 270 sculptures throughout its 42-acres, including works from New Jersey artist George Segal. On this beautiful day, Union students had the opportunity to walk the park and view many of the sculptures, while sharing their thoughts and ideas about the vision of the artist when creating each piece. Assistant Professor of Economics/Government/History and club advisor Dr. Michele Rotunda accompanied the students on the trip.

SHARING THE VALUE OF EDUCATION



Union students and members of the Latin American Councils pose together and celebrate the success of their first meeting.

A new initiative for this academic year has been to expand travel abroad opportunities for Union students and to share with the international community the benefit of attending Union County College. Dean of Elizabeth Campus Dr. Lester Sandres Rápalo invited to the Elizabeth campus the non-profit organization GLACO, which is comprised of several Latin American Councils, to discuss an upcoming Education Forum with Union students who learned about the importance of education.

YAMEL ABREAU AND JESSICA WOODS NAMED FIRST TEAM ALL-AMERICAN



Congratulations to women's basketball players Yamel Abreu, of Union, and Jessica Woods, of Linden, who were both named 2019 Division II First Team All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). This distinction follows their incredible performances this year which led the women's basketball team to end their season ranked second in the nation.

Yamel, a guard/forward for Union, had a fantastic season. For a second year, she was chosen as the NJCAA Region XIX Player of the Year. During the season, she surpassed her 1000th point mark and led the team in scoring with an average of 16.7 points per game. Ms. Woods grabbed her 500th career rebound and averaged a double-double with 14.3 points and 11.7 rebounds per game.

INFORMING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ABOUT THE VALUE OF UNION



Union's staff members who participated in the panel are One Stop Manager Donnell Clement, Assistant Director of Academic Learning Center Jose Paez-Figueroa, Director of Enrollment Services Bea Rodriguez, Dr. Rápalo, and Recruiter Victor Alvelaez.

Dean of Elizabeth Campus Dr. Lester Sandres Rápalo, with staff from the Student Development Division and the Academic Learning Center, and in conjunction with the Consul of Mexico, invited local high school students to the Elizabeth campus to learn more about attending Union and the value of earning an associate degree. The panel members spoke about our top-notch faculty, our nationally ranked sports teams, more than 40 clubs, and advisors who will be available to guide them through their College experience.

GOLF TEAM DEFEATS THE COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS



Head Coach William Dunscombe (left) and Assistant Coach Marc Postiglione (right) with the team in the center: freshman Joram Morinvil of Union, freshman and team manager Sean Ilanovsky of Fanwood, freshman Anthony Tirella of Linden, sophomore Samuel Skultety of Clark, and freshman Nate Halek of Cranford.

On April 8, the Union County College Golf team competed in a five team match that was held at the Flanders Valley Golf Course in Flanders, New Jersey. The three Owl freshman golfers, Joram Morinvil, Nathaniel Halek, and Anthony Tirella, helped secure a win for the Owls against the County College of Morris. On April 22, the team will host the Galloping Hill Invitational in Union, New Jersey.



The freshman three, smiling for the camera at the Owls first home match held at the Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth.

NJCAA HONORED PRESIDENT McMENAMIN WITH GEORGE KILLIAN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

President McMenamin was the recipient of the 2019 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) George Killian Award of Excellence on April 4 at the NJCAA Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet. This annual award is given to individuals who have demonstrated the ideals of voluntarism, achievement, service, leadership, and excellence as displayed by its namesake. Dr. McMenamin is a Presidential Representative for the Northeast District of the NJCAA and serves as a member of the Executive Committee.



Dr. McMenamin with NJCAA President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Christopher Parker and Northampton Community College Director of Athletics Dr. Troy Tucker.