

**ANNUAL GOLF OUTING RAISED NEARLY THAN \$190,000 FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**



*Union students from the Student Government Association who volunteered for the day at the golf outing.*

*Dean of Elizabeth Campus Dr. Lester Sandres Rápalo, Vice President of Student Development Dr. Demond T. Hargrove, Union County College Board of Trustees member Daryl Palmieri, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Maris Lown, Associate Vice President of Administration Vincent Lotano, Executive Director of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Dr. Lisa Hiscano, Chief Information Officer Dr. Eric Winch, Associate General Counsel Dr. Marlene White, Secretary of the Boards and Director of College Relations Dr. Jaime Segal, Vice President of Financial Affairs and Treasurer Lynne A. Welch, Associate Director of Advising Career and Transfer Services Duane Reid, Dean of Student Success Rebecca Royal, Senior Professor of Psychology Dr. Mandana Ahsani, Union County College Foundation Board Chair and Board of Governors member J. Anthony Manger, Esq., Associate Professor of Chemistry Sherry Heidary, Union County College Board of Trustees Vice Chair Mary M. Zimmermann, President McMenamain, Vice President for Administrative Services Dr. Athos Brewer, Union County College Board of Governors member Jeffrey H. Katz, Esq., and Director of Public Safety Joseph Hines. Kneeling are Union County College Foundation Executive Director Doug Rouse, Union County College Board of Trustees member Miguel A. Merino, and Union County College Board of Trustees Chair Victor M. Richel.*

The Union County College Foundation held its 27th Annual Golf Outing to raise scholarship funds for Union students. This year's event was held on April 29 at Fiddler's Elbow and included more than 200 golfers and dinner guests. The brisk but sunshine-filled day was perfect for mingling with friends while playing a round of golf, that was followed by a dinner program. Union County College Foundation Board Chair and Board of Governors member J. Anthony Manger, Esq., and Union County College Board of Trustees Chair Victor M. Richel both expressed their sincere thanks to the attendees for their help in supporting scholarships for Union students. The keynote speaker, Manny Fernandez, shared how his scholarship helped ensure that he will graduate. He expressed that, "My life was forever changed when a scholarship award gave me the opportunity to continue making my dreams a reality. It continuously opened so many doors for me, giving me the push I needed to continue achieving my future endeavors." The Foundation would like to also thank our lead sponsors for this year's outing: LawCash, BCB Union, Berkowsky and Associates, Inc., and Mark Construction.

**PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTED A NEW CLASS OF SCHOLARS**



Union's Iota Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges and universities, inducted its newest class of members on April 26. More than 125 guests gathered in the Richel Student Commons at the Cranford campus to witness the induction of a large group of the new class of 176 members. Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Maris Lown and Dr. Marie Montes-Matias, Instructor of Biology and an advisor to PTK, addressed the attendees about the importance of community service and being a member of PTK.

## STUDENTS HONORED AT COLLEGE LIFE CELEBRATION



Union students who received the Service Key Awards for their leadership this past year. On the left is SGA Co-Advisor and Associate Professor of Business Marc Postiglione and on the right is Co-Advisor and Assistant Director of the ALC Jose Paez-Figueroa.

On May 1, the Office of College Life held a recognition dinner for the students involved in the many clubs and organizations of the College. Awards were distributed to the officers of the Student Government Association and to the student leaders in various clubs for their commitment to service, such as those who received the Service Key Awards. The event was led by Dean of College Life Tammy Smith and the staff of the Office of College Life.

## FREEHOLDER CHAIR KOWALSKI SHARED THE IMPORTANCE OF DENIM DAY



Freeholder Chair Bette Jane Kowalski (third from left), Coordinator for the Office on Women Jennifer Erdos (second from left), at the table from the Prosecutor's Office, Office of Witness Advocacy Marcela Tricanico and Ana Maria Melara, and Union students.

On April 24, to acknowledge Denim Day, representatives from the Prosecutor's Office and the County's Office on Women hosted an information table about sexual violence prevention at the Cranford campus. Freeholder Chair Bette Jane Kowalski stopped by the table to share with Union students prevention tactics and information on County services provided for those affected by sexual violence.

Denim Day evolved as a response to the actions of a high court in Italy in 1999 which held that a young woman's actions during sexual assault inferred consent because she had on tight jeans. Wearing jeans on the anniversary is the international symbol of protest against destructive attitudes toward sexual violence.

## CULTURAL EXPO HOSTED BY INSTITUTE FOR INTENSIVE ENGLISH



Union students and their children who performed in the Cultural Expo.

On April 25, the College's Institute for Intensive English hosted a Cultural Expo entitled, "Walk Around the World" in the Kellogg Building at the Elizabeth campus. More than 200 attendees viewed different student-created displays from countries in Asia, Europe, South America, Africa, Central America, and the Caribbean. Each display also had different food samples for the visitors.

The highlight of the evening was the talent/fashion show. Students and their children displayed traditional elements of their culture in the areas of fashion, dance, and song.

## UNION STUDENTS NAMED TO PTK ALL-STATE ACADEMIC TEAM



Present at the celebration to honor Union's All-State Academic Team inductees were Vice President for Administrative Services Dr. Athos Brewer, President McMEnamin, Assistant Professor of Economics/Government/History and PTK Co-Advisor Dr. Michele Rotunda, PTK member Katherine Murphy, PTK All-State Academic Team member Esther Valdez, PTK All-State Academic Team member Hyunjoon Sim, PTK member Krystal Nicholas, Assistant Professor of Psychology and PTK Co-Advisor Dr. Rama Lohani-Chase, Union County College Board of Trustees Vice Chair Mary M. Zimmermann, and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Maris Lown.

On May 8, two Union students, Hyunjoon Sim and Esther Valdez, were named to the PTK 2019 New Jersey All-State Academic Team at the New Jersey Community College Scholars Celebration at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton. A total of 38 students from New Jersey were acknowledged as talented, innovative, and dedicated community college students. They were honored and celebrated for their outstanding achievements and exceptional service to their communities and colleges as Phi Theta Kappa members. Union PTK members Katherine Murphy and Krystal Nicholas also attended the celebration to support and honor their classmates.

## UNION SIGNED AN ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH NJIT



At the table to sign the agreement are Union's Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Maris Lown and NJIT's Provost and Senior Executive Vice President Dr. Fadi P. Deek. Standing from left are NJIT's Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies Laurent Simon, Union's Dean of Social Sciences/Business/History Dr. Carlos Barrezueta, Union's Dean of STEM Dr. Liesl Jones, Union's Director of Instructional Design Dr. Jeffrey Gutkin, Union students, Union's Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Scotch Plains Campus Dr. Bernard Polnariiev, NJIT's Associate Provost for Enrollment Management and Academic Services Wendy Lin-Cook, and NJIT's Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Student Services Basil Baltzis.

On April 30, the College signed an articulation agreement with New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). Union's Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Maris Lown was joined by NJIT's Provost and Senior Executive Vice President Dr. Fadi P. Deek for the signing ceremony which was held in the Innovation Center at the Cranford campus. Prior to the signing, Union students demonstrated some of the technology in the Center and explained how it has enhanced their knowledge and made learning difficult topics easier.

The articulation agreement allows Union graduates to enter NJIT with junior-level status. NJIT offers degrees in information technology, computer science, engineering, mathematics, architecture and design, and management.

## SGA CLEANED UP NOMAHEGAN PARK FOR EARTH DAY



SGA officers and ambassadors had a successful day cleaning up Nomahegan Park.

The officers and ambassadors of the Student Government Association (SGA) collected trash in Nomahegan Park for this year's Earth Day initiative. Throughout the year, the SGA officers have been very proactive in their mission to clean up and improve the environment at our campuses and in the County. In addition to this initiative, the SGA is currently running a campaign to collect 500 pounds of plastic bags and wraps in six months. The competition is hosted by Trex and the winning organization will win a bench.

## PRESIDENT McMENAMIN PARTICIPATED IN CAREER DAY

Union County College Board of Trustees Chair Victor M. Richel, President McMenamín, and Union's Vice President of Student Development Dr. Demond T. Hargrove all participated in Career Day at Madison Elementary School in Irvington.

The event was held for 160 students in grades 3-5. Each presenter spoke about their profession and students had the opportunity to ask questions at the end of each session. A total of four sessions were held to accommodate all the students. The Career Day was held to share with the young students potential career options and the education they would need to complete to work in the different fields.



President McMenamín, Psychologist and Dean of Counseling at St. Benedict's Prep Dr. Sinclair Davis, and Lead Auditor at PSEG Shakeerah Davis.

## PRESIDENT McMENAMIN SERVED AS A PANEL MEMBER FOR THE HACR SYMPOSIUM

President McMenamín served as a panel member at the 2019 Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACR) 27th Annual Symposium. The symposium examined the topic of "The Power of Hispanic Inclusion." President McMenamín represented Union and the perspective community colleges in a business session about higher education entitled, "The Higher Ed Partnership Imperative," along with Sandra Holt of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), Dr. Elizabeth M. Béjar of Florida International University, Sarita Brown of Excelencia in Education, and Raquel Tamez of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers.

## DR. LOHANI-CHASE AND DR. MONTES-MATIAS RECEIVED THE ROUECHE EXCELLENCE AWARD



Assistant Professor of Psychology Dr. Rama Lohani-Chase and Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Marie Montes-Matias at the Leagues' Innovations Conference.

This year two members of our faculty received the 2018 John and Suanne Roueche Excellence Award from the League for Innovation in the Community College. Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Marie Montes-Matias and Assistant Professor of Psychology Dr. Rama Lohani-Chase received the award for their outstanding contributions and leadership at Union. Dr. Montes-Matias and Dr. Lohani-Chase were honored at the Leagues' Innovations Conference that was held in New York City.

## PIZZA WITH THE STUDENTS IN PLAINFIELD



Held at the Plainfield campus, in the photo are President McMenamín (left), Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Maris Lown (second from left), Dean of Plainfield campus and Allied Sciences Dr. Victoria Ukachukwu (second from right), and Union's Vice President of Student Development Dr. Demond T. Hargrove (right). In between the members of the administration are the Union students who enjoyed the lunch and the opportunity to share their ideas.

Throughout the academic year, President McMenamín hosts "Pizza with the President" so she can hear first hand from our students. Over lunch, students share their thoughts about being a Union student, their experiences with faculty and staff, and about changes they would enjoy seeing on campus to improve their college experience.

## UNION ADDS TWO NEW TEAMS: MEN'S WRESTLING & WOMEN'S BOWLING



Two new winter sports are being added to the list of Union's intercollegiate sports for the 2019-2020 academic year. For the men, a Wrestling team is being launched. With this addition, Union will be the fifth community college in New Jersey to offer men's wrestling.

A national search for a head coach and coaching staff is currently underway. Union's Athletic Department anticipates having the new coaching staff in place soon.

For the women, the College is starting a bowling team and Ian Parisi has been named the team's coach. Union is now the 35th college in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) to offer women's bowling. The College is now recruiting for the team.

Coach Parisi is a United States Bowling Congress Silver Certified Bowling Instructor and bowling pro shop employee. He is an alumnus of St. John's University, where he was a member of the bowling team. Coach Parisi is excited to build a competitive program at Union.

## PRESIDENT McMENAMIN RECEIVED PROMISE AWARD



Elizabeth Councilman and President of Elizabeth's Promise Awards, Inc., Frank Cuesta, President McMenamín, and Union County College Board of Trustees Chair Victor M. Richel.

On May 3, President McMenamín was honored by Elizabeth's Promise Awards, Inc. and will have a scholarship established in her name. Elizabeth Councilman Frank Cuesta, President of Elizabeth's Promise Awards, Inc., established the non-profit organization to assist with college-related costs for deserving high school seniors in Elizabeth. More than 500 guests were present for this exciting evening in which 59 students received scholarships.

In its 13th year, two Promise Awards were given this year. President McMenamín received the Academic Achievement Award and Mr. Ben Candelino, Athletic Director of Elizabeth Public Schools, received the Scholar-Athlete Award.