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# MIDDLESEX

C O U N T Y C O L L E G E

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From left to right: Dr. William J. Behre, provost, and Dr. Joseph R. Marbach, president, Georgian Court University; and Dr. Joann La Perla-Morales, president, and Dr. Mark McCormick, vice president for academic and student affairs, Middlesex County College.

## Georgian Court Dual Admission Agreement Signed; Provides Discounts for Grads

Officials from Middlesex County College and Georgian Court University have signed a dual admissions agreement that will allow MCC graduates to transfer to GCU seamlessly and at a discounted tuition rate.

“The dual degree agreement creates pathways for MCC graduates in nearly all of our degree programs to transfer to bachelor’s degree programs at Georgian Court University,” said Joann La Perla-Morales, president of MCC. “In addition, Georgian Court will offer guaranteed tuition discounts – based on grade point average – for grads who enroll full time at its Lakewood campus. Discounts range from 20 percent for those with a GPA between

2.0 and 2.49, to 52 percent for those with a GPA of 3.75 and above. This is a wonderful opportunity for our graduates to attend a prestigious university at an affordable rate. In addition to the guaranteed discounted rate, students are eligible to receive other grants and scholarships offered by GCU.”

Justin G. Roy, dean of admissions at Georgian Court University, lauded the agreement.

“As two institutions who share similar educational missions, we’re proud and excited to partner with Middlesex County College to develop pathways for MCC graduates to seamlessly transfer to Georgian Court University,” he said. “While students

can enroll in the dual degree program at any time during their tenure at MCC, both schools recommend doing it as early as possible. That way, Georgian Court advisors can work with the students to ensure they are taking the correct courses and are prepared for the university.”

The new agreement signed by GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., and Dr. La Perla-Morales reflects their shared commitment to providing meaningful, viable options for those pursuing higher education.

“We also know that affordability is of critical importance to all students, and especially so with adult learners looking to balance the demands of work, family and classes,” Dr. Marbach said.

# Website Now Features Career Coach, Allowing Anyone to Explore Careers

A new feature on the Middlesex County College website will allow users to explore careers, build a resume, and learn about in-demand fields and how much they pay. The site is available to everyone and is free.

The link is [www.middlesexcc.edu/career](http://www.middlesexcc.edu/career). A link to Career Coach is on that page.

“This is an extremely easy way to find out about linking academic work with careers,” said Charlotte Quigley, manager of career services at MCC. “While we acquired it for our students, we want everyone to know they are welcome to access it. It might be useful for middle and high school students and their parents beginning to look

seriously at careers, for college students who want to know what is available, and also for seasoned workers who want to change careers. Career Coach is a great tool.”

Ms. Quigley said people can start with a broad outline of their interests, and then discover which careers fit into their criteria, or they can start with a definite career goal, and then use the site to find out how to get there.

“For example, a student might know that he or she is interested in the field of psychology,” she said. “This site will give them job titles, whether demand for workers in these jobs is growing or shrinking, the level of education they will need, and the salaries they can expect to earn for each job. Students and job-seekers can also take the opposite tact; they may say, ‘I want to be a clinical psychologist,’ and then the site will tell them what degrees they will need to get there.”

A listing of jobs currently available is also included. She said the site is updated frequently, so job information is current. It defaults to the Middlesex County area, but can be changed to any geographic area in the country.

Another feature is a resume builder.

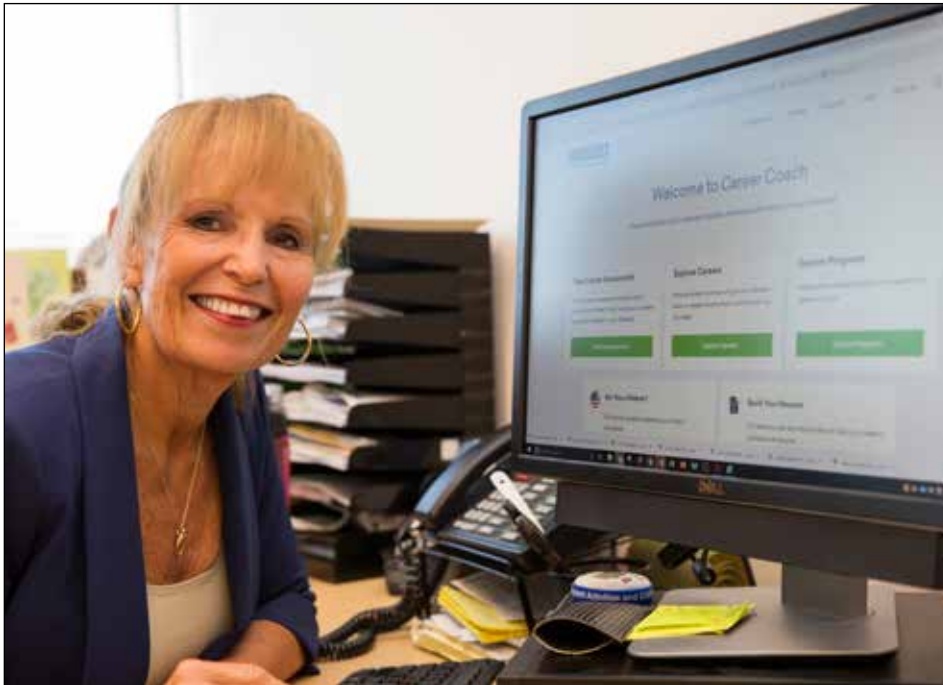
“The site will allow you to customize a fully-functional resume,” she said. “It looks professional, is spell-checked, and can be done quickly.”

The site also has an interest assessment tool; students can answer questions about what they enjoy doing, and the site will recommend possible careers based on the answers.

“It looks at how their interests mesh with careers,” she said. “It helps them determine what jobs they may be interested in – and, equally important – what would not be a good fit for them.”

Ms. Quigley said she hopes Career Coach will assist many people in their career search.

“We know from research that students connected to careers are more likely to persist to graduation,” she said.



Charlotte Quigley

## THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

This Month at Middlesex is a publication of Middlesex County College  
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# English Professor Again Translates Sicilian Author

Her name is Fasma, and she is a fictional character in one of Luigi Capuana's novellas. She is buying a ticket for a train trip in 19th century Italy, and is noticed by the narrator of the story. He is fascinated by her; they meet on the train and discover they are both searching for something. She is a lost soul and he hopes to be her rescuer. They end up living under the same roof in his rented country villa.

But there are complications.

"The emotions of the human heart are so complicated that when we start to untangle them the process never ends," Capuana writes.

This tale is one of six in "Profiles of Women," Capuana's first complete full-length work, published in 1877. It has been translated by Middlesex Professor Santi Buscemi. Each story features a woman and an unnamed male narrator.

"It consists of six different women and their relationships with what we



think is six different men," Professor Buscemi said. "But it turns out it really isn't six different men, it's the same man – Capuana's persona."

Professor Buscemi said Capuana explored the inner thoughts of both men and women with clarity.

"In the preface, Capuana tells you that his stories come out of the misty region of his consciousness about women that he knows," Professor Buscemi said. "And they're very

interesting stories. Capuana was a master of psychology. He inhabited the minds of both men and women."

Professor Buscemi is an expert on the life of Capuana, the father of "verismo," the literary philosophy that maintains that humans are pawns of outside influence – economic, political, social, biological – that leaves little room for free will.

This is Professor Buscemi's fourth Capuana translation.

His first was "C'era una volta," a collection of fairy tales under the English title "Sicilian Tales," which was followed by "The Marquis of Roccaverdina" and "Nine Sicilian Plays by Luigi Capuana Translated from Sicilian into English."

"Profiles of Women" was the precursor to Capuana's first novel, "Giacinta," which was published two years later. The translation of that work is next on Professor Buscemi's agenda.

"I find him to be a fascinating author," he said.

## Constitution Day

The MCC community recognized Constitution Day with a reading of the document that was simulcast on the Edison campus, and at the New Brunswick and Perth Amboy centers.

Multiple speakers took turns reading sections, including Kristin Honey, right. The College also heard from Elias Alcantara, former senior associate director of intergovernmental affairs at the White House. He discussed his experiences working there, why he decided to seek a career in public service and the importance of the Constitution.





# Patriot Day

MCC commemorated 9/11 with Patriot Day, which memorialized those killed on September 11, 2001, as well as honoring the military and first responders. At right, members of the MCC Veterans Services Center raised the flag. From left: Joel Santana, Brian Vinogradov and Matthew Kleman. Mr. Kleman read a poem called "The Eleventh of September" by Roger J. Robicheau, and student veteran Amanda Janiga (below) read the September 11th proclamation from President Trump.



## Student Building a Robot That Will Work on Mars

Bharg Shah '17 was a precocious 6-year-old in elementary school in India when he heard his principal over the loudspeaker with a very special opportunity. He announced a program that would send two dozen of the young students to a NASA research center in the United States.

Bharg was heartbroken when he learned he couldn't go.

But two of his friends did, and they returned with stories and photos that fueled the second grader's desire to learn as much as he could about science and visit NASA.

Twelve years later, that dream will come true this fall.

Mr. Shah, a 2017 MCC graduate in Engineering Sciences and Mathematics, was part of the NASA Community College Scholars program, conducted by the University of Oklahoma, in which he took on online course for six weeks. He scored a 96 percent in the class and was then offered the opportunity to go to the NASA Research Center in Langley, VA for a four-day workshop. The visit will reinforce what the students learned in

the class, plus discuss scholarship and internship opportunities. He will also build a robot.

"When I get to NASA, I have to program and build a robot that will work on Mars," he said. "This is a dream come true."

He is now at Rutgers and hopes to go into automobile aerodynamics.

While at MCC, Mr. Shah was vice president of the STEM club and a peer tutor in the Learning Science Center and in the Veterans Center.

"He is a very sincere student," said Professor Meenu Jain. "He was in two of my classes and is a terrific student. I am very proud of him and predict he will be very successful."



Bharg Shah with Meenu Jain