Turning A Vision Into Reality:
The Opening and Dedication of the
John W. Deans Collaborative
Learning Center
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>A Message from the President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>Campus Updates &amp; Student Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Faculty &amp; Staff Honors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Basketball Player Scores in the Classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>VB3: Veterans, Boots, Books and Beyond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>Spring Commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-15</td>
<td>Turning a Vision into Reality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>In the Spotlight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Cultural Arts Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-21</td>
<td>Spirit of Jefferson Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-23</td>
<td>Foundation &amp; Alumni News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-25</td>
<td>Jefferson Success for the Whole Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-27</td>
<td>Trustee Spotlight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Jefferson Community College
1220 Coffeen Street
Watertown, NY 13601

State University of New York
Sponsored by Jefferson County

----- Board of Trustees -----

Terry N. Fralick, Chair
Nathan P. Hunter, Vice Chair
Reganne H. Smith, Student Trustee

Pamela S. Beyor-Murtha
Michael W. Crowley
Elizabeth C. Fipps
Judith L. Gentner
Steven C. Haas
James P. Scordo
Lisa A. Weber

----- Administration -----

Carole A. McCoy
President

Thomas J. Finch
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Daniel J. Dupee, II
Vice President for Administration & Finance, Treasurer

Betsy D. Penrose
Vice President for Students

Jefferson Community College is committed to providing equal access to its educational programs, activities, and facilities to all otherwise qualified students without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, age, disability, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, familial status, pregnancy, predisposing genetic characteristics, military status, domestic violence victim status, or criminal conviction, or any other category protected by applicable state or federal law. An Equal Opportunity employer, JCC also affirms its commitment to nondiscrimination in its employment policies and practices. In compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, JCC prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual harassment.

---

This publication is produced by the Marketing & Public Relations Office at Jefferson Community College.

Leslie DiStefano, (315) 786-2234, ldistefano@sunyjefferson.edu
Pamela Dixon, (315) 786-2392, pdixon@sunyjefferson.edu
Tyler Peterson, (315) 786-2500, tpeterson@sunyjefferson.edu
David Bowhall, (315) 786-2383, dbowhall@sunyjefferson.edu
Christie Grimes-Topping, Contributing Writer and JCC Assistant Professor of English
Tim Lyman, Contributing Writer and JCC Alum
In June, the College hosted a community breakfast that we titled “Students on the Edge: Overcoming Barriers to Degree Completion.” We were delighted to have about 60 community leaders join us for a conversation about how the College can help more students succeed. While we spoke about a number of barriers to student success, the one that has been challenging my thinking is the so-called “diploma divide” between students who come from high-income families and students who come from low-income families. Greg J. Duncan, an economist at the University of California, puts the issue in simple and stark terms: “Everyone wants to think of education as an equalizer – the place where upward mobility gets started, but on virtually every measure we have, the gaps between high- and low-income kids are widening.”

Nationally, the data is sobering. Simply coming from a wealthy family gives a student a two and half times better chance of finishing:

- 70% of students who come from the top 25% of wealthiest families and who have above average test scores will graduate from college.
- Only 26% of students who come from the poorest 25% of families and who have above average test scores will graduate from college.

When you look at students who have below average test scores, their chances of succeeding are much lower and the discrepancy is even greater. In that case:

- 30% of the students with low test scores who come from the top 25% of wealthiest families will graduate.
- Only 6% of the students with low test scores from low-income families will complete.

Students come to Jefferson Community College with varying abilities and from varying incomes. Sixty percent of our full time students receive Pell awards which is a federal program for low-income students and families. Most of our full-time students (82%) use some form of financial aid to help pay for their education. Almost 80% of our adult learners (over the age of 25) come from households with incomes under $40,000. You do not need to look at data to see the financial challenges that our students face. We see it through the numbers of students who are working, applications for scholarships and aid, visits to our food closet, and requests for emergency loans.

At the community breakfast, we shared information about programs offered at the College to help low income students. For example, we’ve achieved good results with our STAR program (a Federal TRIO grant for Student Support Services) which provides professional and peer tutoring, intensive academic advising, counseling, and need based scholarships for approximately 170 at-risk students. This year we had the great fortune to be selected for an Equal Opportunity Program grant and a grant to develop a Community School, both of which are targeted to low income students. We will share information about the outcomes of these programs as they move forward.

Still, I keep coming back to the notion that we as a community and as a nation need to do more to bridge the diploma divide. We have all heard the cries that we need a more highly educated citizenry and workforce. For me, it is not acceptable that even under the best of circumstances only 26% of our nation’s children from low income families will graduate from college. I would love to hear your ideas on what else Jefferson Community College can do to be a part of the solution.

Carole A. McCoy
President
Newly Appointed Board Members
Since April 2016, New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has appointed three members to the Jefferson Community College Board of Trustees: Pamela S. Beyor-Murtha, Judith L. Gentner and Elizabeth C. Fipps. Additionally, Reganne H. Smith has been elected by the student body to serve as the student member of the College’s Board for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Elizabeth C. Fipps
Elizabeth “Beth” Fipps, Watertown, is the Vice President for Foundation and Community Services at Samaritan Medical Center. Prior to joining Samaritan Medical Center, she worked at HSBC Bank USA. During her 24-year tenure with HSBC, she rose to ranks of the Senior Vice President and District Executive in Watertown. Beth has served on numerous Boards in the community such as United Way, Hospice Foundation of Jefferson County, and the Development Authority of the North Country. In 2003, she received the Israel A. Shapiro Citizenship Award and, in 2005, she received the prestigious Athena Award. Her appointment fills the expired term of Doris G. McAlllen.

Pamela S. Beyor-Murtha
Pamela Beyor-Murtha, Black River, retired from the position of Chairperson of the Board of the Bernier Carr Group of Companies after a 28-year career. In 2010, Beyor-Murtha received the prestigious Athena Award. She is extremely active in the community helping with events and organizations such as the American Heart Walk, Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization (FDRLO), Relay for Life and many more. Her appointment fills the expired term of Michelle D. Pfaff.

Judith L. Gentner
Judith Gentner, Watertown, enjoyed a 30-year career working for the military, serving most recently as Deputy to the Garrison Commander at Fort Drum from 1997 until her retirement in 2011. Gentner has been honored with numerous awards including Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service and AUSA’s First Region Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award. Judy is an active community advocate, member and volunteer with several organizations including the Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization, Watertown Urban Mission, Operation Yellow Ribbon, and many more. Her appointment fills the expired term of David J. Clark.

Reganne H. Smith – Student Trustee
Reganne Smith, Croghan, is a 2015 graduate of Beaver River Central School in Beaver Falls, NY. She is enrolled in Jefferson’s mathematics and science associate of science degree program with a concentration in science. She is a member of the College’s first ever cross country team which became conference and regional champions. During her second semester at JCC, she is a resident assistant in the College’s residence halls. Active in the community, she volunteers her time in a variety of ways including at her church, the local humane society, and singing for residents of a Lewis County nursing home. Her first official Board of Trustees meeting was July 6, 2016.

Fort Drum Man of the Mountain Award
Donald Johnson, JCC’s director of military programs, received the 2016 Man of the Mountain Award, established to recognize an individual of the Fort Drum community who goes “above and beyond” to improve the lives of 10th Mountain Division Soldiers and their families. Don, the face of Jefferson Community College on Fort Drum, is a tireless advocate for the soldiers, their family members and veterans. His outstanding student service, program coordination and attention to detail ensure a positive educational experience for military students.

JCC Student Megan V. Donato Receives Vanguard Award
Megan V. Donato is one of four students in New York State to receive the 2016 Vanguard Award. Megan, a dual major in engineering and mathematics & science (with a concentration in science), graduated from Jefferson in May. She earned first place in the New York State Mathematics Association of Two Year Colleges math league and received the JCC 2016 Outstanding Engineering Student award and Outstanding Mathematics Student award. She plans to transfer to Syracuse University in the fall.

College Receives a Baby Grand Piano
Students enrolled in some of JCC’s music courses this fall will have a new musical instrument at their fingertips! Courtesy of Kathleen F. Chace, Lake Placid, Jefferson received a donation of a vintage 1970’s Kawai baby grand piano that made its debut in the Sturtz Theater over the summer. “I entrust this family heirloom to Jefferson’s care,” says Ms. Chace. “I hope that many pianists, young and mature, may find years of enjoyment.”

JCC’s Concurrent Enrollment Program - EDGE – Receives National Reaccreditation
EDGE (Education Demonstrating Growth & Excellence) concurrent enrollment program for high school students has received reaccreditation by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP). JCC’s EDGE program provides high school students the opportunity to take college courses at their high school or BOCES location during the regular school day. NACEP accreditation guarantees concurrent enrollment programs meet rigorous national standards for quality. JCC is one of only 98 higher education institutions across the country, and one of only 16 in New York State, that holds NACEP accreditation.

He joined Jefferson in 1996 as Extension Site Coordinator on Fort Drum and in 2002 he was promoted to Director of Military Programs.

(l-r) Col. Michael C. McCurry, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade commander, Donald R. Johnson, JCC Director of Military Programs and Tracy Bannister, wife of Maj. Gen. Jeffrey L. Bannister, 10th Mountain Division (LI) and Fort Drum commander.
New Concentration in Psychology now Available
A new option in JCC’s humanities and social sciences associate degree program is a concentration in psychology! The majority of careers in psychology require education beyond an associate’s degree, therefore Jefferson’s psychology concentration is planned to support transfer into psychology majors at four-year colleges and universities. Jefferson offers many transfer opportunities to consider and students can choose from a wide variety of colleges and universities to pursue their baccalaureate degree. Visit www.sunyjefferson.edu to learn more.

Craig McNamara, JCC’s New Veterans Services Coordinator
Located on the first floor of the John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center is JCC’s Veterans Services Office and Craig McNamara, coordinator for veterans’ services. Craig joined JCC in April 2016. He holds a bachelor's in marketing and management from Bridgewater State University and served as a Scout/Attack helicopter pilot in the Army from 1986 until his retirement in 2011.

Spring Graduates of JCC Nursing Program Pinned
Jefferson held its annual spring Pinning Ceremony for graduates of the College’s nursing program on May 19, 2016 in the College’s Sturtz Theater. Twelve candidates for the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in nursing were eligible to take part in this special program.

Front row (l-r): Jadah G. Scott, Nichole L. Covell, Pamela J. Brown, Hilary P. Jacobsen

Jefferson Citation awarded to the Watertown Vet Center
James M. Sheets (left), President Carole A. McCoy, and James R. Miller (right)

SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence
(l-r) Cailey M. Burrows, SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher, Michael E. Pitts

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society 2016 All-New York Team
2016 Coca Cola Community College Academic Team Bronze Scholar
Mark A. Patrick

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society 2016 All-New York Team
Kouma S. Semenya
Faculty/Staff Honors

Retirees

(l-r) Marlene P. Johnson, Thomas W. Vincent, Sheri J. Madlin, John C. Baker, President Carole A. McCoy, Patricia K. Jaacks, Paul J. Amyot, Cynthia A. Shelmidine. Retirees not pictured: Jeffrey A. Moore and Rebecca E. Buchanan

25 Milestone Years of Service


SUNY Chancellor’s Awards

(l-r) Deborah A. Steinberg, Sharon Zaffarano, Thomas N. Moran, President Carole A. McCoy, Stacy E. Pratt, Barbara D. Romano, Carleen S. Huxley

SUNY Distinguished Faculty Rank

Joel F. LaLone (middle) and his wife Laurie A. LaLone (left) with President Carole A. McCoy (right)

Spirit of Jefferson Award

JCC North Country Community Cup Team Co-captains Joshua J. Hollenbeck, Racheal M. Chubb, standing with President Carole A. McCoy. Missing from photo Matthew R. Lambert
Athletes juggle. Some juggle playing sports and holding a job while others complete internships, maintain physical fitness or take up strength training. For JCC basketball player Ismaeel A. Safo, academics was more than a juggling act. It was the lifeline keeping his dream of earning a scholarship to a Division I college alive.

The 6-foot-4 Brooklyn native came to Jefferson in fall 2014 with defined personal goals and ambition that did not go undetected. Ismaeel admitted his focus in high school was only basketball, but given a fresh start in college, "it was time to get serious."

"Basketball is always a motive for me, but without the grades, there's no basketball," Ismaeel says. "I didn't want to be a good athlete who fails (the team) because of grades."

Seeking the support of JCC’s academic coaches and tutors when needed, and keeping grades a priority from the start, Ismaeel’s efforts paid off. He ended the fall semester with a 3.05 GPA.

"He has a lot of self-motivation, which you need to be successful at many levels of sports, especially collegiate basketball," says Joseph Vaadi, coach of the JCC men’s basketball team. "He has just continued to get better since the first day he arrived on campus."

Ismaeel says he will never forget playing in the game versus Corning Community College when Assistant Basketball Coach Matthew Gorman approached him during halftime with stats. Ismaeel recalls "I had ten rebounds in the first half and I told myself I gotta keep going, it doesn't stop here, and we won that game." By the end of the fourth quarter, Ismaeel made 18 rebounds.

In May, he was offered a scholarship to Paul Quinn College an independent member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, in Texas. "Ismaeel has worked hard to get to this stage of his career," says Vaadi. Ismaeel plans to transfer in the fall. His career goal is to become a detective.
Many veterans are ready to take on the challenge of higher education after their military careers, but the transition is often difficult. Veteran students have not been in a classroom in several years and navigating the financial aid paperwork is intensive. For years Jefferson has been providing direct assistance to veteran students and now these services are expanding. Veterans Boots, Books, and Beyond (VB3) is a collaborative grant between Jefferson Community College and SUNY Canton. The JCC Veterans Services office will utilize the grant to provide increased services such as:

• Software solutions to identify veteran students who may be struggling academically earlier in the semester
• The addition of math and English tutors dedicated to veterans, active duty and reserve soldiers, and their families
• Facilitation of easy transfers for veteran students to SUNY Canton to continue their education

“We are thrilled to be able to offer veteran students enhanced services to help them succeed academically and build personal relationships with each student. With the new grant, a strong Veteran's Club and dedicated veteran space in the new Deans Collaborative Learning Center, Jefferson is positioned to help these students succeed and be engaged on campus,” says Craig A. McNamara, Jefferson's Educational Coordinator for Veterans Services.
Anthony Hayner

“Most people in the Army get stopped by mental barriers, not physical ones,” claims Anthony Hayner, Jefferson Community College alum, veteran, and successful financial analyst in Baltimore, MD. Anthony Hayner wasn’t sure what he was going to do after his Army career ended. While serving as an Army health care specialist at Fort Drum, he took the opportunity to take Jefferson’s emergency medical technician and critical care courses and received additional training before deploying to Iraq. After serving as a line medic in C Company, 2/14 Infantry Battalion, he didn’t know what type of career to pursue. As the first person in his family to go to college, deciding to earn a degree was a challenging first step. Anthony knew he was a nontraditional college student. He was older, a veteran, a husband, and a father. But, Anthony reached out to Jefferson and was guided by Don Johnson, director of military programs, who helped him through the process of admission, utilizing the G.I. Bill, and transitioning into college studies. Anthony enrolled in the individual studies degree program and surprised himself by making the Dean’s List. He graduated with honors in May 2012 and then continued taking courses from Jefferson and SUNY Empire. After taking an accounting class at Jefferson, Anthony discovered his path and he credits his individual studies degree with helping him narrow his direction. In 2013, he began studies at Martin J. Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University, in pursuit of a bachelor of science degree in finance. While there, he interned with Otis Technologies.

Today, Anthony is a financial analyst for Techtronic Industries (TTI), the parent company for power tools and equipment manufacturers Ryobi, Hoover, Oreck, Dirt Devil, and others. Looking back, Anthony notes, “I didn’t think I could do it. I thought I was really bad at school. There were a ton of roads. I didn’t know which one I was going to take. But you should just start as soon as possible, even if you don’t know what you want to do. JCC is the first stone in the walkway. Just start.”

Kurt Dubay

Kurt Dubay originally saw himself working in economics, but discovered his passion for medicine when he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2010 as a health care specialist. After serving four years in the Army with the 4-31 Battalion, Kurt wanted to know even more about medicine. His wife suggested becoming a physician assistant (PA). Kurt turned to Jefferson Community College and, through their help and the G.I. bill, he moved closer to his dreams.

Location was key for Kurt. He initially chose JCC for its convenience in obtaining his pre-requisites. What Kurt found was a friendly, helpful staff at the JCC Veterans Services office eager to work with him to ensure he received his Veterans Education Benefits efficiently. The Veterans Services office validated his course load for the VA and provided academic coaching to ensure he was on track to meet his educational goals. For Kurt, the transition from his Army training to his college studies was a fluid one. Kurt says he was originally “nervous about going back to school but adapted really quickly.” Kurt developed his interest in science and enjoyed classes in genetics, microbiology and organic chemistry with professors such as Jeff Kiggins, Patty Jaacks, and Dr. Venkat Chebolu. Through his studies Kurt learned “JCC is a great school. It’s a smaller school where you get to know other students and professors.”

In May 2016, Kurt earned an associate’s degree in mathematics and science with a concentration in science and was recognized as Jefferson’s 2016 Outstanding Science Student. In the fall, Kurt will be attending Le Moyne College, where he has been accepted into the master’s in physician assistant studies program. Kurt credits JCC with “absolutely setting me up for a career and training as a PA.” Kurt knows he is well prepared and is eagerly anticipating continuing his studies at Le Moyne and then moving into a year of clinical rotations. Kurt advises potential students to “strive for the best and keep going forward.”
Cailey M. Burrows and Morgan F. McAleese were among the nearly 450 Jefferson students commencing on Friday, May 20, 2016 at Jefferson’s 52nd annual Spring Commencement.

Jefferson alumna Dr. Carla B. Overton, Class of 2003, delivered the commencement address. Dr. Overton is a pediatrician at Trust Pediatrics in Fulton, NY and an associate professor of pediatrics with both Golisano Children’s Hospital and Crouse Hospital in Syracuse. The student commencement speaker was Megan E. Hill of Lowville. Hill graduated with an associate in applied science (A.A.S.) degree in early childhood and plans to transfer to SUNY Cortland in the fall to pursue a bachelor’s degree in early childhood/childhood education.

In addition, four honors program students were recognized along with two students who received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence, two students named to the Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Academic Team, one recipient of the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Bronze Scholar award and the Watertown Vet Center received the prestigious Jefferson Citation at the ceremony. (see page 5)

Congratulations to the Class of 2016 Spring and Summer graduates of Jefferson Community College!
Cailey M. Burrows

Recently graduated in May with her associate degree in math and science, Cailey M. Burrows is not simply coasting by in college.

Burrows, 19, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society of Leadership and Success. She is also a part-time certified nursing assistant at Samaritan Summit Village, although she said she has worked up to 40 hours per week, sometimes working double shifts. In the midst of her busy schedule, she maintained a 3.8 GPA.

“My friends told me I was a nerd because I was in the library a lot,” Burrows said.

Because of her accomplishments and some of her leadership roles on the Jefferson campus, SUNY awarded Burrows its prestigious Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence.

She also served as treasurer of student government and chair of the budget finance committee. The following year she was elected as the student representative of Jefferson’s Board of Trustees and board-member of the Faculty Student Association.

She said these different roles have helped shape her experience as a leader by giving her confidence to “take that first step and lead by example.”

Burrows said she will attend D’Youville College, Buffalo, in their combined bachelor’s and master’s physician assistant program. She said that her interest in the medical field began with her interest in the fine arts and her love of science in school. She said that although working in a long-term care facility is challenging, being able to give others purpose gives her purpose. She describes her time with Samaritan Summit Village as “fulfilling” and a “great experience.”

Regarding her accomplishments, Burrows said, “I’m thankful for all of it.”

Morgan F. McAleese

Morgan F. McAleese graduated from Jefferson Community College in May with an associate degree in human services, but doesn’t plan to leave campus any time soon. Through the Jefferson Higher Education Center (JHEC), the 20-year-old Barnes Corners native plans to continue her studies on JCC’s campus, but as a Keuka College student.

Keuka College offers bachelor’s degree programs in criminal justice, nursing and social work through its Accelerated Studies for Adults Program (ASAP) at the JHEC. Morgan’s interest lies with the social work program. While classes are held on JCC’s campus, courses are taught by Keuka College professors and meet one night a week. Most students in Keuka’s ASAP can complete their bachelor’s degree in two years.

“I actually prefer JCC because my mom already graduated from here a long time ago,” McAleese said, touching on Jefferson’s hometown appeal.

Because she chose to stay at Jefferson in lieu of studying on Keuka’s campus, she said she will not have to pay for room and board or books. The latter, Keuka will provide McAleese at no additional fee.

“I will still be able to live at home, continue to save money, and still be able to be somewhere I’m comfortable,” McAleese said.

McAleese said that, when she graduates from Keuka, she will likely become a school counselor or a substance-abuse counselor, although she said she is leaning more toward the latter. She said she lost two cousins to heroin overdoses in 2009 and 2011, and those events helped shape her perspective.

“That was probably my biggest turning point,” she said. “After taking such a tragic loss, I wanted to do something to not only better myself, but better other people.”
hen Carole McCoy joined Jefferson in 2007 as the College's fifth president, one of her first tasks was to update the college's five-year Strategic Plan and Facilities Master Plan (FMP). Typically, the strategic plan is developed first, but faced with shorter lead time, President McCoy gathered her staff and faculty and tackled the ambitious task of developing both plans at the same time.

When asked what her vision was for Jefferson when she joined the College, Carole recalls “I wanted to have a campus where students would come and stay. Not just drive on campus, attend class and leave. I also wanted the campus to be the hub for higher education opportunities in the area.”

All one needs to do is take a stroll around campus to see that Dr. McCoy has turned her vision into a reality. As you enter the campus from Coffeen Street, one of the first buildings you see is East Hall, the College's first on-campus student housing. The residence hall, which is owned by the Jefferson Faculty Student Association Auxiliary (JFSAA) and operated in partnership with the College, opened in Fall 2014. By Fall 2015, the 294-bed facility was at 102% capacity with many double rooms converted to triples. East Hall is on track to be at full
capacity again for Fall 2016. The residence hall has played an integral role helping Jefferson to modernize the campus and maintain enrollment by attracting new students seeking the “complete” college experience, especially important in a time period of declining enrollments statewide.

In March of 2016, the $12 million John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center (CLC) opened its doors to students, faculty and staff. In the CLC, traditional library and media center functions are supplemented with Jefferson’s accommodative, retention, career planning and job placement services, the Strategies to Achieve Results (STAR) TRIO program, veteran services, tutoring and technology-rich classrooms.

The seeds for a “learning commons” were planted prior to McCoy’s arrival, but it was the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan that prioritized the “collaborative learning center” as a critical component to student success and degree completion. There were many champions behind the notion of a learning space that would bring library, academic support services, and technology together to create an environment that fostered collaboration and learning, yet even with the support of Jefferson County and SUNY, funding wasn’t secured until 2014.

Noting that East Hall is owned by the JFSAA (community colleges cannot own residence halls), the Deans Collaborative Learning Center is Jefferson’s first new building since the Jules Center opened in 1995. “Completing the CLC is especially gratifying,” says McCoy with a broad smile. “I am so pleased because it is all about student space and student success. The way students learn today – it’s about engagement, conversation, interaction – that is what the Collaborative Learning Center brings to this campus.”

(Continued on next page)
No sooner was the ribbon cut for the Deans Collaborative Learning Center in March when renovations began for the Melvil Dewey Library building. The interior of the building has been virtually gutted and is being refurbished from bottom to top. In addition to housing the Liberal Arts Division and Institutional Technology, space previously occupied by the library will be home to state-of-the-art nursing and paramedic instructional labs, classrooms and student space. The building, which has been renamed and will be dedicated to the late Watertown general surgeon and philanthropist David G. Gregor, is scheduled to open in August 2016, just in time for fall semester classes.

McCoy isn’t stopping any time soon. When the renovation of the Gregor Building is complete in August, construction will begin on the College’s One-Stop, a single location for all new student enrollment services such as admissions, advising, financial aid and registration. The One-Stop will be located in the first floor of the Jules Center and is expected to open in February of 2017. At the same time, the College will construct a small building to house Jefferson’s Community School, a grant initiative aimed at increasing student success by eliminating non-academic barriers to degree completion. It is hoped the Community School building will open in March 2017.

Looking ahead, McCoy hopes to lay the groundwork to revitalize the College’s athletic facilities with turf fields and a new fieldhouse. While some may contend that athletic facilities are a lower priority, McCoy recognizes the “need for balance between academics and extra-curricular activities that provides a well-rounded college experience. And, we are aware that many students who come from high schools with top notch athletic facilities choose community colleges with equal to or better facilities.”

McCoy notes that accomplishing change isn’t always easy and presenting a $64 million Facilities Master Plan (including funding for ongoing maintenance of decades-old buildings) is not without challenges. She credits her senior administration, faculty and staff for helping to lay out a clear framework of what direction the College needed to go. “Part of the reason I think we have been successful is that we stayed true to our strategic plan over two planning cycles and have been very transparent about our plans and goals. While the plan was tweaked a little, the key initiatives didn’t really change.”
For example, the Higher Education Center was originally envisioned as a standalone building situated closer to Coffeen Street with other functional capacity. “But as time went on, we knew the funding would not become available,” said McCoy. “So instead, we re-purposed a modular building on campus, renovated it and as the Extended Learning Center it now houses partnerships with 9 academic institutions that offer more than a dozen bachelor’s and master’s programs, along with Jefferson’s Continuing Education Division and Small Business Development Center.” The Higher Education Center, also a key initiative of the strategic plan, opened in 2010.

What people may not realize is that Jefferson is ranked among the lowest in SUNY for instructional square feet per student says McCoy. “We didn’t really have the right spaces for today’s learning environment and our strategic and facilities master plans worked to rectify that. We needed more space for teaching and learning as its done today. This campus has worked very hard to achieve these goals and I’m very proud of our collective accomplishments.”
First in College History!
Edward Corniel Receives ABCA/Rawlings Gold Glove Award

JCC sophomore first baseman, Edward Corniel of New York City, was selected by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III baseball committee as the 2016 American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA)/Rawlings Gold Glove recipient. He is one of nine baseball players in Division III, and the first in the history of the College, to receive this prestigious award. With a near perfect season, Edward played in 43 games, recorded 283 put outs, 11 assists, 13 double plays and hit .347 on the season with 7 doubles, 3 triples, 3 homeruns, and 32 RBIs. He received an athletic scholarship from Hannibal-LaGrange University in Hannibal, Missouri, and plans to transfer from Jefferson in the fall.

2015-2016 Awards

National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) All-Region Team
1st team
Javon Hunter, men's basketball
Stephanie Green, women's lacrosse

2nd team
Jarrod Bellinger, baseball
Hunter Thomas, baseball
Beth Anne Neuschwander, softball
Riley Luckie, women's basketball
Bryanna Gagnon, women's lacrosse
Annette Rishe, women's lacrosse
Paul Bracy, men's lacrosse

3rd team
Christian Rohlehr, men's basketball

NJCAA Division III Men's Basketball All-American Honorable Mention Team

Javon Hunter

Mid-State Athletic Conference (MSAC) All-Conference Team
Paul Bracy, men's lacrosse
Dan Grant, men's lacrosse
Darren Lemorta, golf
Beth Anne Neuschwander, softball
Hunter Thomas, baseball
Victor Christiansen, baseball

MSAC Player of the Week
Javon Hunter, men's basketball

Coming this fall, the college is hosting a return to campus celebration - Jefferson Friends and Family Weekend (JFFW). Athletes, former coaches, alumni, current students and family members are invited to take part in the festivities! One highlight of JFFW is the 2016 Cannoneer Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Members of the 1991-1992 women’s basketball team along with former basketball coach John Penrose and former assistant basketball coach Vicky Exford-Kolb make up the 2016 class of inductees.

The Lady Cannoneers basketball team of 1991-1992 was the first JCC team to win a Region III Championship of the National Junior College Athletic Association. Team members include:

Sonya A. Comins  
Diana C. Hadlock  
Wendy Howard Kiuber  
Amy Jo Leonard-Sipher  
Rebecca Earle Morgia  
Jenn Podvin Richmond  
Jill Bruce Wiley  
Joy L. Williams Zimmerman

The Cannoneer Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place in conjunction with the 2016 Distinguished Alumni recognition ceremony to be held on October 13 at 5:30 p.m. in Sturtz Theater. A partial schedule of JFFW athletic events is listed below. Visit www.sunyjefferson.edu/alumni for a complete list of activities.

Thursday, 10/13  
5:30-8:00 PM .................. Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame Ceremony -Sturtz Theater

Friday, 10/14  
5:00-6:30 PM .................. Robert F. Williams Alumni Basketball Game (women's)  
Honor the 1992 women’s basketball team for winning the 1st Regional Championship  
7:00-8:30PM .................. Robert F. Williams Alumni Basketball Game (men's)  
Women’s cross country banner raising @ halftime

Saturday, 10/15  
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ........ Women's soccer alumni game (JCC field)  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM ........ Baseball alumni game (Watertown Fairgrounds)  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM ........ Softball alumni game (JCC field)  
1:00 - 2:45 PM .............. Women's soccer game vs. Niagara (JCC field)  
Honor the 1991 women’s soccer team for 25 Year Anniversary @ halftime  
3:00 - 4:45 PM .............. Men's soccer game vs. Niagara (JCC field)

Sunday, 10/16  
11:00-12:00 PM ............ Men's soccer Alumni vs. Alumni Game (JCC field)  
1:00-2:45 PM .............. Men's soccer vs. Jamestown (JCC field)  
3:00-5:00 PM .............. Women's soccer vs. Jamestown (JCC field)
Since joining the College in 2012, Bruce Alexander has been at the helm of the facilities department during two major construction projects – East Hall and John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center – and most recently, the renovation of the David G. Gregor building, formerly the Melvil Dewey Library building. Bruce has helped create a vision for the campus that includes intertwining aesthetics, sustainability and reducing the College’s carbon footprint. He holds an associate degree from SUNY Empire and a bachelor’s degree from Brigham Young University.

**How did you get your start in this career field?**
I started in the military (U.S. Coast Guard) and the U.S. Merchant Marine aboard ships and found that they are pretty much big buildings that float. I took what I learned about mechanical systems operation, maintenance, and repair and applied that to the facilities management field.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?**
It is never the same any two days in a row.

**What does being ‘green’ mean to you?**
It is a concept that encompasses all aspects of how things get done in a sustainable manner. There are the basics of saving energy, reducing carbon footprint, recycling, etc. - but to be truly sustainable one looks at every aspect of operations: purchasing standards, cleaning, grounds care, pesticide use, water consumption, health, safety and the overall environmental impacts that our activities cause.

**What is your favorite book and why?**
I have many favorites - currently I just re-read *Distant Waters* by William W. Warner. It describes the effects of factory trawling on the North Atlantic fisheries in the 1970’s. I was there as part of the fisheries patrol in 1973 and saw many of the things chronicled. The story is a micro look at what humans can do to one single aspect of the world ecology and the lessons can be carried over into all areas of resource over-exploitation.

**What is your favorite time of year on campus?**
Anytime I don’t have to get up at 3:00 a.m. and come in for snow removal operations! Fall is fun also - it is good to see students come back!

**Campus has changed significantly since you joined the College in 2012. What facilities-related projects are you most proud?**
I think that all of our facilities have improved through a campus-wide, team effort with input and ideas from all of our stakeholders. I have enjoyed being a part of that process and being able to apply my knowledge and training to help optimize the results. I especially have enjoyed finding creative ways to repurpose existing facilities to better meet program needs.

**What motivates you?**
I have worked in facilities management in the military, hospitals, K-12, commercial, and college environments. I have found that being in the education field is very satisfying to me because I know that I am helping people to grow and become more knowledgeable world citizens.

**Over the course of your lifetime, what do you consider to be your most significant accomplishment?**
Personally - I am happy that my children have grown up to be successful individuals. Professionally - I am happy that I was able to go back to school as an adult learner to get a degree in facilities management and help me be better at my profession.

**Who do you consider your mentor and why?**
I would credit Dr. Jeffery Campbell - department chairman of the Facility and Property Management program at Brigham Young University for providing a real life, nuts and bolts overview of the discipline by tying people, process, and place to the built environment.

**What do you like to do for fun?**
I enjoy a variety of things - reading, travel, museums, fishing, and hunting.
Kotchegna
Saturday, October 8 / 8:00 pm

Kotchegna, an international dance-company hailing from New York City, will bring a repertoire of nearly 60 Ivory Coast original songs and dance to the North Country at JCC. With musical instruments made of materials like cotton and animal skin, master drum-maker Vado Diamonde will share the traditions of West Africa and neighboring countries where music plays an important part of ceremonies and celebrations. For more than 15 years he toured with the Ballet National de Cote d’Ivoire both performing and creating choreography throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and Australia.

Native American Flutist Joseph FireCrow
Saturday, October 29 / 8:00 pm

“You can teach someone how to play the flute, but you can’t teach them how to make it sing,” says Joseph FireCrow, acclaimed Native American flutist. Joseph was first named Flutist of the Year in 2004 at the Indian Summer Music Awards and then again in 2006 and 2010 at the Native American Music Awards (NAMA). His extensive repertoire includes Best Flute Recording Award (2013), Song/Single of the Year award (2011), and the list goes on. He has released 8 solo albums, 6 internationally.

Sand Mandala Presentation by Losang Samten
Friday, November 18 / 7:00 pm

Venerable Losang Samten, monk and mandala master, travels around the world to share his knowledge of Tibetan Buddhist rituals involving the creation and destruction of mandalas made from colored sand. Construction of a sand mandala will take place at JCC over the course of four days. The ritual will conclude November 18th with interpretation of the mandala’s symbolic patterns and dismantlement.

All cultural arts events are free to attend, open to the public, and held in the Robert R. and Jean S. Sturtz Theater of the James E. McVean Student Center. Inquiries can be directed to the JCC Student Activities Office, 315-786-2431. Sponsored by the JCC Campus Activities Board.
Eight years ago, Jefferson Community College developed a vision in its strategic plan and facilities master plan for an integrated and energetic student space where the library, academic support services, and technology were brought together to create an environment that fostered collaboration and learning. On May 18, 2015 Jefferson officials, students, faculty/staff, elected officials and community members gathered at a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Collaborative Learning Center.

Less than one year later, in March 2016, the 36,000 square foot Collaborative Learning Center opened to students, faculty and staff. In the new space, students have direct access to essential academic services, break-out rooms for team projects or group study, and flexible space furnished to support a comfortable learning environment.

In April, the Collaborative Learning Center was dedicated to President Emeritus Dr. John W. Deans, a person whose name is synonymous with that of Jefferson Community College. Deans first joined the College in 1967 as an instructor of history and political science. He retired from Jefferson in 2002 following a College career that spanned three and a half decades and included service as department chair, academic dean and third College president. His vision brought the Center for Community Studies to fruition and he is widely credited for his furtherance of the College as a community partner central to the growth of the North Country. Deans led the College in a successful capital “Campaign for Jefferson” and immersed himself in the North Country community.

The dedication ceremony brought together former and current faculty, staff and trustees, community members, alumni and local leaders in a celebration that honored Deans, his commitment to the mission of the College and his unwavering “spirit of Jefferson.” His love of history was artfully woven throughout the ceremony.

Distinguished Professor Raymond Petersen, in full Thomas Jefferson attire, delivered a humorous and poignant proclamation that lauded the accomplishments of Deans as a “history of repeated achievements and successes all having direct objective of the establishment of a better quality of life for the college and the community.” John was particularly involved with the rapidly growing military community.
“With the Fort Drum expansion, John was instrumental in fostering the relationship between Jefferson and Fort Drum and brought educational opportunities to soldiers and their dependents,” said Steven Haas, a Jefferson Trustee since 1987. “That strong relationship remains with us today.”

Katherine Fenlon, Vice President Emeritus, spoke of the honor and the promise associated with naming something after someone. “To do so is to give a great and enduring honor and it is also to give an equally great and equally enduring promise. If we do not keep the promise, we have not truly given the honor.”

Fenlon, who worked alongside Deans for 24 of her 30 years at Jefferson, reflected on her colleague and friend. “I’ve always appreciated that the energy and inspiration permeating John’s essential approach to things is a deep-seated passion for teaching,” said Fenlon. “In all situations, be it community or campus-based, John always sought the teachable moment, and used that moment to move the decision or plan, crisis or issue forward into productive completion.”

A singing ensemble comprised of staff members Courtney Bauer, Jessica Jones, Michele Gefell and Rebecca Small-Kellogg, along with faculty emcee John Penrose who provided historical narrative, wowed the guest of honor with a personal musical tribute that played off Deans’ love of history, coffee, Jefferson Community College and the musical *Hamilton*.

“John is first and foremost a scholar, an educator, a true champion for student success,” said Carole A. McCoy, president of Jefferson Community College. “Dedication of the John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center, a building designed for the purpose of helping students to succeed and achieve their academic goals, is a most fitting tribute to Dr. Deans.”

Deans, who was joined by his wife Mary Jo, their children and several grandchildren, was humbled by the honor and appreciative that so many members of his Jefferson family could join in the celebration.

“I truly am deeply honored, very appreciative and humbled to be recognized by this most important piece of JCC’s future,” said Deans. “In this center of learning, this College’s outstanding faculty and staff - and they are second to none - will open doors and continue to bring life changing opportunities to students of our North Country community. I feel extraordinarily privileged to be part of this learning center and we can only imagine at this point the return on investment that this investment in education will provide.”

**John W. Deans Legacy Scholarship**

The dedication of the John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center grossed $100,105 in contributions to support the John W. Deans Legacy Scholarship and the Center for Community Studies. Jefferson is appreciative of room naming gifts received from the following:

- **BCA Architects & Engineers, $25,000 Gift**
- **BCA Fireside Commons**
- **Purcell Construction Corporation, $25,000 Gift**
- **Mr. & Mrs. Robert Purcell Local History Room**
- **Watertown Savings Bank, $25,000 Gift**
- **WSB Classroom (first-level)**

Over $25,000 in donations to the Deans Legacy Scholarship were made by local individuals and businesses, and members of our College’s alumni. We are grateful for each and every one.

To make an online donation in honor of Dr. Deans, make a note on the donation form at www.sunyjefferson.edu/give, or if paying by check, on the memo line.
Michael Krickmire, ‘70, received the 2016 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. Michael has been teaching in the Department of Theatre and Music Studies at The College at Brockport for 26 years.

Thomas D. Horman, ‘81, has received a Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Service for his work with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Removal Operations. Thomas was a Criminal Justice major at Jefferson and received a bachelor’s degree from Utica-Rome State College of Technology.

Carthage Republican Tribune, February, 2016

Rob Elmore, ‘82, was recently promoted to Vice President and News Director of Disney-ABC Owned KABC-TV in Los Angeles, CA. He has also served as News Director at WTVD-TV in Raleigh-Durham, NC and at WHEC-TV in Rochester, NY.

Darlene M. Rowsam, ‘84, was selected as the 2015 NYSCATE Outstanding New York State Education Technology Leader. Darlene is the Technology Director at Copenhagen Central School.

Phyllis Taylor, ’97, graduated from Lenoir-Rhyne University with a MA in Human Services in August 2016. She is a Community Case Manager at Helpmate, Asheville, NC.

Mary Wilsie, ’00, recently completed a MBA and works in Labor Relations at 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East.

Jacob Frier, ’09, received a M.D. from SUNY Upstate in 2016 and serves as an Emergency Medicine Resident Physician and is currently training in Emergency Medicine at SUNY Upstate.

Robert A. Green, a former JCC student, was awarded the Jefferson-Lewis Board of Cooperative Services 2016 Alumni of Distinction award. He is a process engineer at New York Air Brake and was instrumental in the development of the adult manufacturing program at BOCES.

Boonville Herald, July 2016

Phil Gaffney was named the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Conference Division I Coach of the Year. Gaffney has served as head men’s basketball coach and athletic director at Georgia Highlands College in Rome, GA since 2011. He also played basketball at Watertown High School and JCC and served as an assistant coach for Indian River Central School.

Watertown Daily Times, February, 2016

John Roberge, ’66, comes from a true “JCC Family.” He credits his lack of attention in class to meeting the love of his life and bride of almost 50 years, Mary Howard Roberge ’67. Meeting Mary was a result of John extending his studies at JCC one extra semester! The family tie doesn’t stop there. John’s mother served as one of the original secretaries on campus and his younger brother also attended JCC.


Coming this fall, the college is hosting a return to campus celebration - Jefferson Friends and Family Weekend (JFFW) – beginning Friday, October 13 through Sunday, October 16, 2016. Alumni, students, faculty/staff, coaches and their family members are invited to take part in the festivities!

One highlight of JFFW is the recognition of the 2016 Distinguished Alumni. Honorees are…

• Susan Charley, Class of 1967 – Professional Achievement Award
• Dennis G. Quinn, Class of 1975 – Jeffersonian Award
• Warren G. Fargo, Class of 2001 – Jeffersonian Award

The 2016 Distinguished Alumni recognition ceremony will take place in conjunction with the Cannoneer Hall of Fame induction ceremony to be held on October 13 at 5:30 p.m. in Sturtz Theater. Other JFFW activities include alumni games (current athletes versus former athletes), a tailgate cookout, area attractions and more. Visit www.sunyjefferson.edu/alumni for a complete list of events.
JCC Scholarship in Focus

It was the desire of the Steven G. Thomas family to turn the devastating loss of their father in a vehicular accident into a positive impact on our community by forming the Steven G. Thomas Memorial Scholarship. It was awarded in the 2016-2017 academic year for the first time. The scholarship is given to a graduate of General Brown Central School who demonstrates a financial need and academic merit. Son Marc Thomas, when speaking of his late father, describes a person dedicated to “his family and community, coaching youth sports, volunteering to help others and building a lasting legacy.”

The Jefferson Community College Foundation is incredibly appreciative of the Thomas family’s generosity and desire to turn a tragic event into an extraordinary act of kindness, a true testament to the positive influence their father had on his family. For more information about the many Jefferson Community College scholarship opportunities, please visit www.sunyjefferson.edu/foundation.

AcademicWorks
The One Place for Jefferson Scholarships

Beginning in the spring of 2016, Jefferson Community College launched AcademicWorks, the leading online provider of scholarship management solutions for colleges, universities, and foundations. AcademicWorks has made the scholarship application process at Jefferson more convenient for students. The increase in applications has given JCC an opportunity to award more scholarships to deserving students. The system has provided efficiencies in the awarding process as well as communication to students and donors.

- To date, 340 student applications have been submitted for 2016-2017. Last year, 135 paper scholarship applications were submitted for 2015-2016. This represents an increase of 152%. There are a total of 1,947 auto-match applications and 1,240 apply-to applications. This equates to a student to scholarship ratio of 1:9.
- AcademicWorks has improved the compliance, utilization, and stewardship of scholarship funds, while improving service to students, donors, and the community.

The resulting increase in applications made possible by AcademicWorks will help more students reach their academic goals and achieve their dream of earning a college degree.

To learn more visit www.sunyjefferson.edu/scholarships.
Many people have been told education opens paths to the future, but how many people realize how influential that decision may be? How many can pinpoint the decision that altered their lives forever? For Javier Benjamin Primicias III and his family, it was attending Jefferson Community College. This choice led to education, romance, family, successful children, and a thriving local business.

Javier Benjamin Primicias III, or Ben, says that his studies at Jefferson impacted his life in tremendous ways and credits Jefferson for providing opportunities he otherwise wouldn't have had. Ben enrolled in a JCC's business administration program where he learned the skills that would later help him to open School Daze, a school supply business on Arsenal Street in Watertown. While studying business, he discovered his passion and broadened his vision of what he could do. Ben says his classes in finance, economics, and business gave him "the foundation to feel confident in the business world." When he graduated in 1983, he used those skills to earn a position at the corporate level and begin his career.
But Ben’s experiences in his business classes were just one of the ways his life was changing. In Ben’s second semester of college, he met a woman and knew she was the one. Susan was studying liberal arts and preparing for a career in teaching. After a first date at a JCC basketball game, their relationship blossomed.

Susan worked in the registrar’s office as a work study student where she gained valuable experience. She graduated in 1984 and used her education as a springboard for further studies leading to a bachelor of science in elementary education from Oswego State University and a master’s degree in reading from SUNY Potsdam. Susan took a job teaching at Indian River Central School District and has remained there inspiring others since 1990.

Ben and Susan married in 1987. They look back on their years at JCC with fond memories and great appreciation. Their professors at Jefferson also impacted their future and they recall a few of their favorite faculty such as Dr. Joanna Chrzanowski, Patrick Pearson, Dr. David Walton, and David Reid as instrumental in their success. Ben saw how dedicated teachers were to making learning fun and they were inspired to open School Daze in 1991 to make it easier for teachers to enhance their own classrooms.

Ben and Susan eventually had two children, Ben IV and Jillian. As the kids grew, their parents shared their insights on education. Ben and Jillian learned “Education is the #1 ticket for you to be more marketable in the workforce. It gives you the foundation to getting a better future. A better education means better opportunities.”

Ben IV and Jillian would take these lessons with them to Jefferson Community College, where they both followed in their father’s footsteps and studied business administration. Ben IV’s goal is to open his own business, and he sought out Jefferson to give him the foundation and skills to someday make his dream a reality. Once he graduated from Jefferson in 2013, he continued his journey. Ben IV is earning his MBA from SUNY Oswego and is looking forward to a bright future with the skills and knowledge he’s gained.

Jillian, who graduated from Jefferson in 2015, is preparing for a career in law, specializing in international women’s legal issues while studying at SUNY Oswego. While still a high school senior, Jillian completed many of her freshman classes through the JCC EDGE program and then benefitted from the Jefferson-Can Community Scholars Program to attend JCC. This program of the Northern New York Community Foundation, in partnership with the JCC Foundation, provides full tuition first-year scholarships for students in Jefferson and Lewis counties graduating in the top 15% of their high school class, after all other financial aid is applied. This impressive scholarship allowed her parents the option of financially assisting Jillian who is currently studying abroad. JCC scholarships such as this often enable students greater learning opportunities and decreased debt upon graduation, for which Ben and Susan are grateful.

Their decision to attend JCC was based on more than the Jefferson pride that had been instilled in them as children, it was also a smart business decision. Ben IV writes, “Growing up in a business oriented family only solidified my reason to attend JCC for my business degree. I was inspired by the professor’s experiences in the business world and the knowledge they all shared with the students.”

The impact of Jefferson Community College on the Primicias family is woven throughout their stories. Each remembers their studies fondly, cites the value and experience, and credits JCC with setting them on their path to their current success. Ben will be the first to tell others of its value. When asked what advice he would have for someone considering attending JCC, Ben says, “JCC will give you the education and fundamentals you are looking for. It will be the best investment you will ever have.”
Trustee Spotlight

James P. Scordo

Terry N. Fralick
Has your personal view of the College changed since you first joined the Board of Trustees?
JS: Yes. The saying, "There's more here" certainly applies to JCC. There is much more offered to the community and students than I was aware of. The Higher Education Center was a real eye opener for me. I was totally impressed with all the Bachelor degrees offered right here at Jefferson.
TF: During my career, I have had several opportunities to become acquainted with a variety of programs at JCC. However, as Trustee, I have learned so much more about the institution. My personal view of the College has not changed, but rather it has been enhanced. My admiration and appreciation for the JCC staff continues to grow.

How, if at all, do you think the community's view of the College has changed over the years?
JS: I think the community may initially have been opposed to residence halls. I now think the community sees this as a great benefit offered to Jefferson students.
TF: I believe that the community’s view of the College has changed over the years in large part due to the advancement of technology as it is applied in the teaching and learning processes. Our community is able to take advantage of a wide spectrum of academic programs that can address many diverse personal interests.

What are some of the biggest changes you have seen occur at the College?
JS: The successful completion of the residence halls as well as the Collaborative Learning Center. These two were projects in the Master Plan for many years and it was nice to see them both completed and to already see the benefits to students and faculty.
TF: The most significant changes at Jefferson in recent years have been the positive impact of Fort Drum and the establishment of on-campus housing.

“Community” is our middle name. What are some ways in which Jefferson meets the needs of the North Country?
JS: I think the administration at JCC has been very responsive to meeting community needs. The Higher Education Center and new degree programs are examples of that. The BSW and MSW (social work) programs, weekend nursing option, new HIT (health information technology) curriculum and most recently, care coordinator training, were all in direct response to community needs.
TF: Simply stated, Jefferson consistently meets the needs of the North Country community by providing a cost-effective college educational experience for anyone who is willing to make a personal commitment to this great opportunity.

What does Jefferson look like in 10 years?
JS: In 10 years I would not be surprised if Jefferson has recently completed construction of new residence halls to accommodate an additional 200 students.
TF: The future of JCC in the context of the next 10-year span will depend on the impact of financial and enrollment challenges. Of course, technology advancement during the next 10 years will also have a tremendous impact on both instructional strategies and program content.

What is Jefferson’s “best kept secret”?
JS: I believe the best kept secret is the quality of the staff and faculty here at Jefferson.
TF: Jefferson's “best kept secret” is the number of educational partnerships with local school districts, regional two-year and four-year colleges, and area businesses, agencies and organizations.
Our Vision

Jefferson Community College will be a dynamic educational leader, transforming lives and our community.

Our Mission

Learning is the focus of Jefferson Community College. Through excellence in teaching, innovative services, and community partnerships, the College advances the quality of life of our students and community.