

VANGUARD

Official Newsletter of the Adjunct Faculty Association at Nassau Community College
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(516) 572-7294 | www.myafaonline.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

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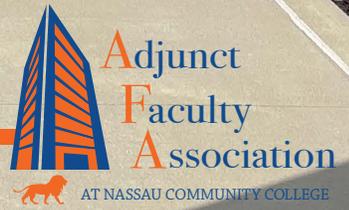
*WE CARE
About Our Students,
Our Members,
Our College!*

ADJUNCT SPOTLIGHT

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THE INSIDE SCOOP

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From the President's Desk



Stefan Krompfer

I have no idea as to why, but on a number of occasions over the past week, as I struggled with what I would write for this column, the words “*You Are There*” kept popping into my head. “*You Are There*” is the title of a very old TV program – circa 1950 – that was hosted by the sainted/trusted CBS News Anchor Walter Cronkite. The program reenacted/dramatized important events in history in a way that made them real.

There is no need for such a program when it comes to Nassau Community College’s recent history. We were there over the past six years and earlier. We lived the reality then and continue to live it now. There is no need to dramatize what we have experienced. All of it was real then and is very real now.

- Too many students who could have, would have, and might have come to our great college of opportunity have not found their way here or have left disappointed.
- The number of courses available for adjuncts to teach has shrunk appreciably and has sidelined too many of us.
- The ranks of our full-time colleagues have and will continue to drop appreciably.
- Living with the COVID19 virus as we return to a face-to-face campus – F2F Fall 2021 courses are about 35% of the total course offerings – is stressing us out big time.
- All of us internalize with great angst the plight of our students who struggle with our best attempts to educate them via the remote teaching/learning model.
- Our attempts to work collegially with the college to bring new students to us and to retain students for the most part has fallen on deaf ears.
- The number of Deans serving us and our students has gone from five to two.

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From the President's Desk

- The Dolan Report has yet to be distributed to the college community. *
- Some BoT members label college faculty who point out the problems that have plagued the college as rabble rousers.
- NCC is going broke:

Operations Loss Predicted for the next four years

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Projected Total Operating Revenue **	178,487,164	176,382,247	175,255,195	179,761,929	184,131,162
Projected Total Operating Expenses	189,742,743	193,614,259	198,625,340	204,609,302	210,903,743
Projected Operations (Loss) Gain	(11,255,579)	(17,232,012)	(23,370,145)	(24,847,373)	(26,772,581)

*PROJECTED OPERATING REVENUE & OPERATING EXPENSES PRESENTED BY THE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION TO THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 9, 2021.

My October 2020 *Vanguard* column led with the headline “NCC’s Survival Is At Stake: The Buck Stops On The Desks of The College President and the Members of NCC’s Board of Trustees.” We were there a year ago and you/we are there now. Where will we be in a year?

* In the March 2021 edition of the *Vanguard* I wrote – “We do look forward to the timely release of the whole report by President Williams to the college community along with a commitment and a plan to better serve and attract more high school students to NCC while building a strong working relationship with the Nassau County School District Superintendents, and Directors of Guidance and Guidance Counselors.”

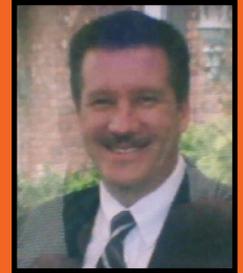
** Projection assumes that there is no decrease in enrollment for 2021. Enrollment is down 8.1% for the Fall Semester 2021.

Stefan Krompfer
President
Adjunct Faculty Association



The Inside Scoop

It would be a great understatement to say that the past year and a half has been a challenge. It is my hope that you and your loved ones have been able to navigate this difficult time with as minimal consequence as possible. One of the lesser consequences of the pandemic is found in the inability to connect on a person-to-person basis. Throughout the pandemic, the AFA leadership team has been in contact with adjuncts who required assistance via emails and telephone calls. We have been able to address their concerns using the same communication modalities.



Richard D. Erben

As institutions across the industry spectrum have had to revert/rely more heavily on an online presence, this is a good time to review what our website has been offering since 2015 and the enhancements that have been made over the past year. Our website, located at <http://myafaonline.org> is a great resource center for our members. I invite you to peruse the website as it has far more resources than the space of this column can accommodate listing. I will summarize some of the main features. First, we have the AFA Documents section where one can find our Collective Bargaining Agreement, wage tables, Constitution/Bylaws, Adjunct Handbook, leave cash out formula and more. Additionally, we have the AFA Members' Benefits page where you can find benefits exclusive to our members including group rate: dental insurance programs, vision plans, prescription plans, life insurance and more. Moreover, we display the current *Vanguard* and have every issue of the *Vanguard* dating back to February 2015 on the *Vanguard* archives page.

The website is also home to all of the AFA's meeting minutes dating back to January 2015. One new addition to the website is our Adjunct Spotlight page. This page lists all of our adjuncts who have been highlighted in the *Vanguard* through the years. Simply click on the adjunct's name, listed alphabetically, and it will take you to the issue in which they ap-

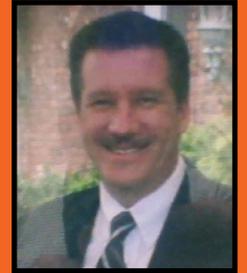
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The Inside Scoop

peared.

Finally, realizing that the pandemic has had a very negative effect on employment, we have created our job posting page. On this page, you will find links directly to the job postings page of Hofstra, Adelphi, St. Johns, LIU, Molloy and NYIT. As these colleges/universities update their postings, they are automatically updated through our links. In addition to these listings, you will also find position openings at various school districts in Nassau County. Many of the resources on our website are strictly for the sole benefit of our members and thus are password protected. We have sent the password to our members on a couple of occasions and most recently on August 23, 2021. If you need assistance with the password, please email me at admin@myafaonline.org.

I wish for you good health in the days ahead. I look forward to the time that we can all come together again.



Richard D. Erben

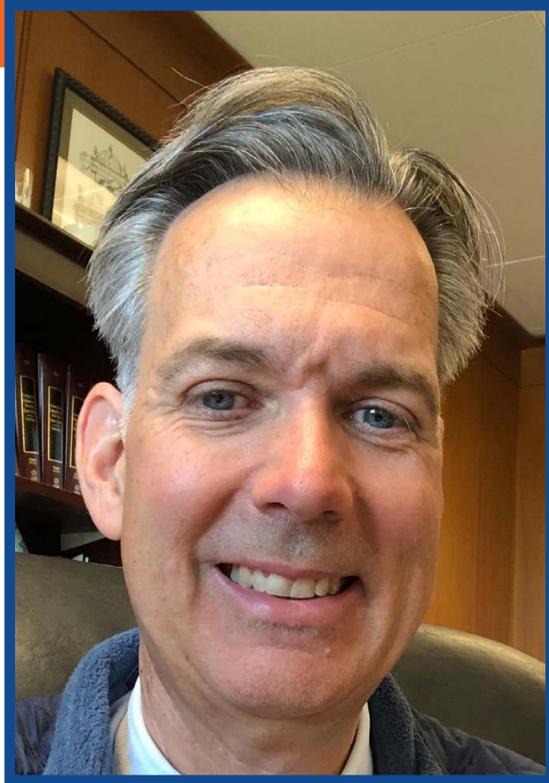
Richard D. Erben
Chief Information Officer
Adjunct Faculty Association

NEW ADDRESS

Please notify us if you have changed your address in the past five years. Send your new address to: afa@ncc.edu Thank you!

Adjunct Spotlight

Tim Driscoll



By Ruth Silverman

If you are a member of the Driscoll family, then Nassau Community College is in your blood. Supreme Court Judge Timothy Driscoll has been teaching in the Legal Studies Department at Nassau Community College for 11 years, teaching everything from Business Law 1 to Litigation. However, before launching a teaching career at Nassau, he was preceded at the College by his grandmother and father. At age 59, his grandmother enrolled at Nassau in 1981 and graduated magna cum laude in 1984. His father enrolled at Nassau in 2002 after retiring as an engineer and received a degree in music engineering. He is the third generation in his family making his mark at Nassau and to be recognized.

Judge Driscoll holds a unique position among adjunct faculty. In 2019, he was nominated anonymously for the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. That was the first year that the award was given at NCC. He was among the first group of eight recipients to receive the award. In order to be selected, he had to provide letters of recommendation from the Chairperson of his department and from students. He also had to provide examples of his teaching and his exams. For Judge Driscoll, exams are not just a way of evaluating student’s progress and knowledge. Rather, they are part of a dynamic learning experience. Students often experience anxiety around taking exams. Judge Driscoll grades his exams in “real time” while the students are present, and permits them to review where they went wrong and correct the errors for partial credit. He also works with students who have test anxiety by giving them an oral test. It is not difficult to see why his students would support his selection for the teaching award.

Judge Driscoll finds teaching at Nassau to be a privilege because of its diversity. He has students ranging in age from 18 to 70. Teaching students with such a diverse age range is both a challenge and a delight. He also enjoys having students from different ethnic and social backgrounds in his classes, as it reminds him of his paternal grandparents and maternal great-grandmother who were all immigrants to this country. As Judge Driscoll recognizes, Nassau is the affordable gateway toward a new future for many first generation students on Long Island. These students are not only fortunate to have the College but also to have professors like Judge Driscoll.

