

connections

CHARTER OAK STATE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

WINTER/SPRING 2016 VOL. XLI NO. 1



2015 Shea Lecture panel with Rebeka Scalia, Foundation President (first from left) and Ed Klonoski, Charter Oak President (third from right).

Family and Work – The Focus of the 2015 Shea Lecture

Irene O'Connor, Anchor, WFSB Channel 3 Eyewitness News This Morning, and mom to twins, was the moderator for the 2015 Shea Lecture, **Work and the Modern Family: Connecting the Dots**. O'Connor led the discussion of a diverse group of panelists representing corporate America and small business, in fields including communications, talent management, and non-profit theater. The conversation touched on a broad range of topics from demographic trends, minimum wage, and paternity leave, to social media policies at work, millennials, flex time and telecommuting, corporate culture, competition for talent, and the

value of innovation and creating and maintaining a strong U.S. economy.

The lecture, which was free and open to the public, was held on November 11, at The Mark Twain House & Museum in Hartford, CT.

Joyce Petrella, Charter Oak State College Foundation Board Secretary and Managing Director and Principal, *Calculus of Talent*, set the stage with a presentation on changing demographic and household trends. Data presented pointed to an increase in multi-generational households. Petrella said the modern household, "is looking less like the Pritchett's and more like

continued on pg. 2



Health Information Management Major Receives Accreditation

Charter Oak is proud to announce that its Health Information Management Bachelor's degree has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM), the governing academic authority in the field of Health Information Management.

Cindy Glewwe Edgerton, M.Ed, RHIA, Program Director said, "This is an incredible achievement for the college which demonstrates the program's compliance with the high standards required by CAHIIM to ensure a quality Health Information Management program."

The College has pursued this degree and subsequent accreditation for its perfect fit with the workforce college strategy. "With this accreditation," Edgerton says, "students can be assured that they have enrolled in a great program. Plus as a public college, we

continued on pg. 3

in this issue

1 HIM Accreditation
CAHIIM Approved

2 The President's Take
Moving Forward

6 Shea Lecture/
Fundraiser
Photos of Event

8 Scholarships Awarded
30 Scholarships Awarded

11 Exciting Collaboration
COSC Partners with edX

THE PRESIDENT'S TAKE



I am writing this *Connections* submission right before the holidays, and we are all looking forward to a few days off. You are reading this long after that season has passed, but I hope you had some fun welcoming in the New Year.

I mention rest because the College has been a hotbed of new developments on a variety of fronts over the past months.

We received the final accreditation of our Health Information Management program (HIM) from CAHIIM, the governing academic authority in the field, and we immediately saw 76 new inquiries about the program. We are optimistic that now that we are fully "blessed," students will be more comfortable committing to the program. And we have been working on a Florida campaign, which has resulted in nearly twice the number of inquiries we expected – over 450 so far. The Admissions department is hard at work talking to HIM and Florida prospects about enrolling.

We have been quietly working with edX.org, the massive open online course (MOOC) site created by MIT and Harvard. They asked us to perform a review of several of their IT courses to see if they are college credit worthy. We did and they are. So next we worked out a contract that allows the edX students who have chosen the "verification route" to receive Charter Oak credit for the successful completion of the courses. We

have also been asked to perform more course reviews. You remember that the M stands for massive, right? These courses enroll thousands of students from all over the world. If even a percentage decide to opt for credit, Charter Oak will be transcribing thousands of credits, and some of those learners may also want our degree. This is a pretty big deal for us.

And finally, our Master's degree continues being developed (including a new online application, new courses, and a new Director to oversee the program). We are finalizing our NEASC approvals as this message is written. NEASC has produced new standards that allow our program to include both transfer credits and credit for prior learning, which is a new development for New England. We are working to take full advantage of this new flexibility. We are on schedule for a 2016 launch. If you are interested in learning more about our Master's degree in Organizational Effectiveness and Leadership, you can access a form at www.charteroak.edu/masters

As I re-read what I have written, this sounds more like a grocery list than an essay, but the staff is hard at work moving the College forward, and I couldn't resist bragging a little about their success. As always, I look forward to your feedback. I can be reached at eklonoski@charteroak.edu.

Ed Klonoski, President

"Family and Work – Focus of the 2015 Shea Lecture" continued from pg. 1

the Walton's." She was then joined in conversation by Joelle Murchison, Vice President of Enterprise Diversity & Inclusion, Travelers; Julia Rosenblatt, Artistic Director, Heartbeat Ensemble; Michael Davis, Vice President of Taxes, Nestle USA; Scott Cleary, President, SMC Partners, LLC; and Liz Grey Godbout, Communications Manager, Frontier Communications. The panel expressed that many positive changes in both corporations and small businesses have already occurred to assist employees in managing the balance of work and family. Petrella, whose business assists companies in recruiting top talent, said smart companies will create a positive culture if they want to retain and recruit a premier workforce.

The Shea Lecture is named after Dr. Bernard Shea, the first President of

the College. The Shea Endowment was established in 1987, upon his retirement. The fund enables the College to sponsor public lectures which further the College's mission to engage students and the community in lifelong learning.

The evening also honored Doris Cassiday, a 30-year employee of the College who worked with President Shea as his first Board Chair, his first Foundation President, and who eventually became an Academic Advisor at the College. Doris passed away in January of 2015, after donating \$20,000 to the Shea endowment in honor of President Shea. Ed Klonoski, President, Charter Oak State College said, "We felt that the best way to honor that donation was to hold this event."

Foundation Hosts Fundraiser

Following the lecture, the Charter Oak State College Foundation hosted a fundraiser in support of scholarships for Charter Oak State College students. Approximately 75 people celebrated the work of the College and contributed to the Foundation's funds to provide assistance to current deserving students.

Rebeka Scalia, alum and Foundation Board President noted during the twelve month period from 2014-2015, the Foundation distributed over \$95,000 in grants, scholarships, and program services. Scalia said, "These grants are made possible by fundraising efforts like this one tonight, and we are grateful for your support and attendance."

continue on pg. 6

Greetings from the Alumni Association!

At Charter Oak State College, we have another very ambitious year planned that builds on the successes of our signature programs.

In the Fall of 2015 we gained CAHIIM accreditation for our Health Information Management Bachelor's degree. CAHIIM accreditation is extremely important in the HIM field as this allows our graduates to sit for the RHIA (Registered Health Information Administrator) exam. RHIA certification is sought after in the HIM field, and now Charter Oak State College is the only CAHIIM accredited four year program in New England. A great accomplishment!

Charter Oak's new Cyber Security Bachelor's degree continues to attract those interested in this ever-growing field. Both Cyber Security and HIM are in keeping with Charter Oak's mission

of offering workforce relevant degrees for the 21st century workforce. You should be proud as a Charter Oak alum that your alma mater is at the forefront of such cutting edge degrees. For a first-hand look at just how "in demand" our HIM graduates are, see the alumni profile of Kim Montero.

In 2015 the college also continued expanding its "degrees without boundaries" by conducting recruiting activities in Florida, Texas, Ohio, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York. Charter Oak Alumni were extremely helpful in all of these locations, and as always, we enjoyed meeting all of you and appreciate all of your assistance. In Florida, the college engaged in advertising out of state and developed a comprehensive outreach plan we called "GO Florida". This outreach will continue into 2016 and includes an online and radio advertising presence,

along with a waiver for the application fee. If you have family, friends, or coworkers in Florida please tell them about the opportunity to apply to the college for free right now.

Charter Oak's Admissions team is looking forward to meeting even more alumni across the country in 2016. If you live in one of the priority states mentioned above, please drop us a note and let us know if you think you might be able to help us or would like to meet other alums in your state. Please contact **Nancy Taylor, Assistant Director of Corporate Recruitment and Alumni Relations** at nataylor@charteroak.edu or 860-515-3863.

We wish you a successful and happy 2016. If you have any news to share or are interested in getting more involved in the Alumni Association, please contact Nancy Taylor. 🌱

"HIM Major Receives Accreditation" continued from pg. 1

are one of the most affordable online options."

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has cited Health Information Management as one of the 20 fastest growing occupations in the U.S. with a projected job growth rate of 23% from 2012 to 2022. Graduating from a CAHIIM accredited HIM program allows students to take the Registered Health Information Administration (RHIA) exam.

Successful candidates for this Bachelor of Science degree should be familiar with working in a health care or health care-related environment, and have an aptitude for biological sciences and information technology. Students who already possess a health care credential (i.e. RHIT, CCA, CCS, CPC, RN, etc.) may be able to receive credit for it, reducing the number of required courses.

Charter Oak has also entered into a transfer agreement with Manchester Community College (MCC) that enables those graduates to more easily transfer

credits. The new transfer program specifically targets MCC's Associate's degree in business office technology/medical with a transfer to the Health Information Management Bachelor's degree.

The agreement between MCC and Charter Oak represents an opportunity for students who are already halfway toward the credential to complete it. "This relationship will be fruitful for everyone involved," says Senior Admissions Associate Moses Terrell Adgers. "It is a great opportunity for working adults to earn a Bachelor's degree while still working."

Adgers added that it is important to note that only CAHIIM accredited HIM programs offer graduates the ability to sit for the RHIA exam, an important credential in the field. "Charter Oak is the only college in New England to earn this accreditation," he said. "The transfer agreement provides students with a unique pathway to one of the highest growth sectors in the U.S. labor market." 🌱

connections

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Issued semi-annually for alumni and friends of Charter Oak State College.

 CharterOakSM
STATE COLLEGE

Degrees Without Boundaries

Charter Oak State College complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.

Helen Diecidue, Editor

State of Connecticut
Dannel P. Malloy, Governor

Board of Regents
Mark E. Ojajian, President

Charter Oak State College
Ed Klonoski, President

alumni profile

Meet Kimberly Montero '15



Connections recently caught up with Kimberly Montero, Class of '15, Health Information Management. Kimberly is employed by a leading health care corporation as a Coordinator for Operational Integrity.

Here at the College, we are very excited to have recently received accreditation for our Health Information Management (HIM) major by the governing academic authority in that field. The Bachelor's degree program of Health Information Management was accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). This important accreditation allows graduates of the program to sit for the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) exam offered by the American Health Information Management Association.

We are also proud to announce our first graduate of the program. Kimberly Montero, a newly minted alum of Charter Oak State College, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management in December.

Her health care journey began shortly after graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art from Paier College of Art in Hamden, Connecticut. Even though she didn't use her degree as originally intended, her education there gave her the foundation for out-of-the-box thinking she associates with good problem solving skills. In retrospect, she says, those skills allowed her to simply follow her interest in health care with an open mind.

"The work that needs to be done and the opportunity I saw to make a big difference is what attracted me to this degree."

While working for a health food store, Montero encountered clients who were interested in bettering their health without medication. This led her to search for an entry-level position in a laboratory as a Microbiology Clerk where she saw the need to reduce duplicate testing. This was the start of her interest in medical records, quality reporting, and health care improvement. "There is so much that HIM professionals can do to greatly improve health care just by coordinating that care among entities, all without needing to see patients directly," says Kimberly. "The work that needs to be done and the opportunity

I saw to make a big difference is what attracted me to this degree."

As is usually the case at Charter Oak, Kimberly continued working full-time while completing her degree. Her employer was fully supportive of her pursuit of the HIM degree even though that meant earning several promotions and leaving a few positions behind to move onward in the organization. "I was able to apply the things I learned in my classes to my work unit and discuss them with my managers and directors throughout my educational career," says Kimberly. "I have been lucky to work for some great folks who encouraged my drive and direction along the way."

Now that she's completed her degree, Kimberly is looking forward to rebalancing her "me" time. Her escape hobby is beachcombing and she is a big advocate for #2minutebeachclean. "Through beachcombing, I can return within a few hours with renewed energy and an all-around better outlook on the work I have yet to do," says Kimberly.

We wish her well in all her endeavors!

*NOTE: If you are interested in sharing your success story with your fellow alumni, please contact **Nancy Taylor** – Assistant Director of Corporate Recruitment and Alumni Relations – and let her know. She can be reached via email: nataylor@charteroak.edu or by telephone: 860-515-3863. 🌱*

alumni spotlight

1996

Mark Anthony Anderson is currently working on a Master's degree in European History from American Public University. After completing his Bachelor of Science with a concentration in Communications from Charter Oak, Anderson earned Master's degrees in history, business, and public administration. He is part owner and chief meteorologist of KOOL-TV, a new TV station and regional network in Central Minnesota airing classic TV programming, retro movies, local news, weather, and sports. Anderson lives in the St. Cloud, Minnesota area with his family.

2001

Tracy Gies was admitted to the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program in Interdisciplinary Leadership at Creighton University in the Fall of 2015.

2002

Todd M. Sparks, Maj, USAF, took over as the active duty Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) at Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee, MA and the Niagara Falls

Air Reserve in Station, NY this past summer. After graduating from Charter Oak in 2002, Sparks then graduated from Brigham Young University's law program in 2005. He was then commissioned into the Air Force JAG Corps and held various legal positions while deploying around the world including Iraq, Afghanistan, and Liberia.

2005

Jared Paul Rozborski is preparing to start a Master's of Forestry Services Certificate program at Yale University. Since graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration at Charter Oak State College he has run his own business, Connecticut Valley Home Services LLC, specializing in tree and horticultural services to residents in the Hartford, CT area.

2007

Rebecca Wareing was recently recognized by The Hartford Business Journal in their "40 Under Forty 2015" issue. She was lauded for consistent top performance, her Rookie of the Year in 2009 award, and increasing her sales by 29% in 2014 at her

management search firm. Prior to joining Management Search Inc., she served eight years with the National Guard in Bosnia as a broadcast journalist. She serves by appointment of the Governor of Connecticut as a member of the board of trustees for the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, she is a member of the Charter Oak State College Foundation Board, and is in her third term as an elected member of the Hartford Democratic Town Committee.

2011

Chris May, President of the Charter Oak State College Alumni Association was recently promoted to Lending Manager, Wells Fargo Dealer Services, overseeing a 10 person team of underwriters.

Cecilia Kozlowski recently became the Director of Program Support for Disaster Operations, Connecticut and Rhode Island, for the American Red Cross. In this position, she is responsible for supporting the areas of real estate, facilities, budgets, development, disaster, volunteer engagement, business operations, and various campaigns. She also serves on the Charter Oak State College Foundation Board of Directors.

2014

Hilary Russell recently moved to the Clearwater, Florida area and is happily teaching middle school math full time. 🌱

STAY CONNECTED THROUGH connections

We'd like to hear from you about promotions, graduate degrees, awards, marriages, births, and other significant successes in your life. We'll publish your news in the next edition of *Connections*. Please use the form below or drop us a note. Send to: Alumni News, Charter Oak State College, 55 Paul J. Manafort Drive, New Britain, CT 06053-2150 or email nataylor@charteroak.edu.

Your name and address _____

Email address _____ Class of _____

My news _____

Four scholarships were awarded. They included:

The Harris-Wiener Family Fund Scholarship awarded to Joey-Lynn Darius

The Beverly and Rodney Hawes, Jr. Scholarship awarded to James Sinclair

The Mark Carr Scholarship Award awarded to Peter Lynch

Technology Grant awarded to Wanda Molina

Scholarships were presented by Foundation President Rebeka Scalia and Vice President Neal Cunningham.

In addition to scholarships, Charter Oak State College President, Ed Klonoski, proudly announced the formation of the Foundation's Legacy Society. Klonoski said, "Tonight we honored our first President and our first Foundation President. Well it is my privilege to offer you another group of leaders. These individuals form the Legacy Society of the COSC Foundation. Each has built a donation to the College into their will. These commitments to our students are both essential to the future of the Foundation and eminently admirable. It is our hope that these leaders light a path that is followed by many of you."

The eight Founding Members of the Charter Oak State College Legacy Society are Marcia Anderson-Esson, Neal and Rosemary Cunningham, Merle and David Harris, Astrid and Fred Hanzalek, Marjory Marsching, Joyce and Mario Petrella, Rebeka and Frank Scalia, and Ed and Angela Klonoski.

Klonoski added, "We have decided to cap this leadership group at an even dozen, so there is room for four more additions to this list of Founding Legacy Society members."

Charter Oak State College alum, Foundation Board member and United States Army veteran Rebecca Wareing recognized Veteran's Day with a tribute to veterans in attendance from each branch of service. She was followed by Tamara Moore who led the singing of the National Anthem.

The Foundation is deeply appreciative to its sponsors including Gold Sponsors – Travelers, Calculus of Talent, LLC; Silver Sponsor – Simsbury Bank; Bronze Sponsors – People's United Bank, First Niagara, Management Search, Inc.

Shea Lecture & Foundation Fundraiser



Foundation Scholarships Awarded

This year, the Foundation received over 250 scholarship applications compared to 77 applications in 2013. The Foundation was able to award 30 of these 250 students with scholarships. The number of scholarship applications continues to increase annually, which speaks to the increased need of our adult students.

During the Foundation's fundraising reception in support of scholarships for Charter Oak students on November 11, 2015, the Foundation awarded 3 named scholarships: The Harris-Wiener Family Fund Scholarship, The Beverly & Rodney Hawes, Jr. Scholarship, and The Mark Carr Scholarship Award. The Foundation also awarded one technology grant.

The Harris-Wiener Family Fund Scholarship was established in 1998 by Charter Oak State College President Merle W. Harris and her husband David to assist needy women who wanted to continue their education, particularly women wishing to pursue careers in education, social service, or public service. The parents of both David and Merle Harris believed that education was the key to success. Both families also stressed the importance of serving others. These family values are reflected in the criteria for this scholarship.

The recipient of this award Joey-Lynn Darius, made the decision to continue her education at Charter Oak State College with the ultimate goal of



Rebeka Scalia, President, Charter Oak State College Foundation and the 2015 Harris-Wiener Family Fund Scholarship winner, Joey-Lynn Darius.

pursuing a degree in law and becoming an attorney in the juvenile court system. This scholarship will help to ease the financial burden of completing a college degree for Joey-Lynn, a single mother of 3 children, and will allow her to focus on completing her degree to serve as a public servant in our judicial system.

The Beverly and Rodney Hawes, Jr. Scholarship was established in 2003. Following the June 2003 commencement ceremony where Mr. Hawes was the recipient of a Charter Oak Honorary Doctoral degree, he and his wife announced that they would present a gift to the COSC Foundation to establish a scholarship. They subsequently made a generous donation and established the Beverly and Rodney Hawes, Jr. Scholarship to recognize a Charter Oak student pursuing a business concentration who has demonstrated qualities of leadership and commitment to community and is considered to possess the potential to make positive contributions within a business environment.

A longtime advocate for the individual worker, Mr. Hawes was cited by the Harvard Business School Bulletin Online as "having established a remarkable record in business while maintaining a sterling reputation for character and integrity."

The recipient of this award, James Sinclair, is currently pursuing his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and considers public service a part of his life. James has been active in the community and politics for many years. He is a member of two service organizations and has served 8 years in elected office and has participated on various committees for his Chamber of Commerce and endeavored to help small businesses as a town official.

The Mark Carr Scholarship Award was established early this year and



Rebeka Scalia, President, Charter Oak State College Foundation and the 2015 Beverly and Rodney Hawes, Jr. Scholarship winner, James Sinclair.

honors the memory of Mark Carr who was the former Fire Chief of New Britain, CT. He was dedicated to bringing a high level of competence to the New Britain Fire Department through training, continuous education, and fostering community spirit.

Prior to his passing in August 2014, Mark Carr worked in the Homeland Security sector in Washington, DC where he was responsible for overseeing disaster preparedness, response, and security for the nation.

The Mark Carr Scholarship Award has been created to continue the legacy of public service that defined his life. He had a passion for continuous learning and so this award will assist especially those persons who are interested in pursuing education to eventually work in the public sector in the field of homeland security, emergency management, or fire sciences.

The recipient of this award, Peter Lynch, a career fire fighter and paramedic, is currently pursuing his Bachelor's degree

continue on pg. 9



Neal Cunningham, Vice President, Charter Oak State College Foundation and the 2015 Mark Carr Scholarship award winner, Peter Lynch.



Neal Cunningham, Vice President, Charter Oak State College Foundation and the 2015 Technology Grant winner, Wanda Molina.

in Public Administration. Peter has studied many degree programs in the past and decided that the Public Safety Administration program at Charter Oak would best suit his prior learning experience and would prepare him for a leadership role. Peter stated that he greatly respects Chief Carr's legacy of training and hopes to bring that spirit to his own organization.

The Technology Grant was created by the Charter Oak State College Foundation to financially assist our online students in the purchase of technology items that support online learning.

Wanda Molina, the recipient of this award, is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. After completing this degree, Wanda would like to further her education by enrolling in a Master's degree program. Receiving this technology award will help Wanda to obtain reliable technology resources, which will help to break down the barriers to her achieving her goal of a college education, which she considers will be "my greatest accomplishment reached." 🌱

happenings

WIT (Women in Transition) student Dea Jackson appeared on WFSB TV's Better CT program in October with encouraging words to other women to finish college. She was interviewed along with Veronica DeLandro, Executive Director of the Aurora Foundation, a WIT program funder, to promote their 10th annual Signature Breakfast fundraiser. The Aurora Foundation is the only foundation in Connecticut solely dedicated to helping women and girls through grants and programs such as WIT.



The Registrar's Office has switched to Parchment for all transcript requests. eTranscripts are now processed daily, free of charge. To request your official eTranscript go to CharterOak.edu, then About/Alumni/ Transcript Requests.



Academic Counseling reminds alums that they are available to help you put your best self forward to current and future employers with resume critique and/or mock interview practice assistance. The service is free with our very own Ashley Zennis, Certified Professional Resume Writer and Academic Counselor. She will work with you in person or via phone or videoconference. Contact Ashley for an appointment at **860-515-3852** or azennis@charteroak.edu.



The Charter Oak State College Foundation Board of Directors has appointed Angela Chapman as Executive Director of the Foundation. These duties fall within her current role as the Director of Institutional Advancement/Assistant to the President of the College. Please contact Angela at achapman@charteroak.edu for any Foundation items.



Welcome to new Foundation Board members Julio Casiano, Deputy District Director, United States Small Business Administration (SBA); Glenn Davis, Vice President, Community Development/CRA Officer, Liberty Bank; Cecilia Kozlowski, Director of Program Support, American Red Cross; Daniel Purushotham, Faculty, Central Connecticut State University; Gregory B. Sneed, CCSU Police Department, Chief of Police; and Latasha E. Turnquest, Director of Family Resource Centers for Manchester Public Schools.



*We are very pleased and thankful to announce recently received grants to
The Women in Transition Program:*

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving - \$25,000

The Leipold Family Foundation - \$15,000

The Aurora Women and Girls Foundation - \$10,000

The Women and Girls' Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation - \$2,050

Charter Oak State College Foundation



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Tel 860-515-3889 | Fax 860-606-9666
www.CharterOak.edu/foundation

Thank You!

Dear Friend of Charter Oak State College,

As we begin the season of giving, we are writing to **thank you** for your generous support of the adult students at Charter Oak State College. Your contributions have significantly helped our students change the course of their lives and careers by completing their college degree. For many of our students, you have helped to break the cycle of poverty in their families. You helped to give many of our students a second chance and the opportunity to say, **"I finally did it"** and we are so grateful to you. Can you imagine experiencing decades of missed opportunities and finally reaching the life changing goal of a college degree? Thank you for believing in our students and empowering their growth and change.

Thanks to compassionate donors like you, the Charter Oak State College Foundation distributed over \$95,000 in scholarships, grants, and program support to Charter Oak State College students during a 12-month period from 2014-2015. Your contributions support the highest priorities of the Foundation and they help to make a college education available to all students regardless of their financial needs.

With the holidays approaching and the season of gift giving upon us, I hope that you will consider a gift to the Charter Oak State College Foundation. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us sustain our commitment to support the unique education envisioned by Charter Oak State College since 1973. In today's challenging economic times, our students are more reliant than ever on the generous support of our alumni and friends. If this is your first donation to the Charter Oak State College Foundation, please remember that a gift of just \$50 from 14 alumni can offset the cost of a course for a student. If you give annually, please consider increasing your donation by 10 percent.

Please do not let this season of joy and giving pass without remembering the Charter Oak State College adult students and families that need your help. Please take a moment to go online at www.CharterOak.edu/foundation/give.cfm to make your charitable tax-deductible gift. You will be recognized for your generous donation in *Connections*, the Charter Oak State College newsletter that is distributed to over 11,000 alumni and friends of the college.

Thank you for supporting the Charter Oak State College Foundation.

With gratitude for your support,

Rebeka Scalia, President

Angela Chapman, Executive Director

Charter Oak Partners with edX

Now awarding college credit for MOOCs

We recently entered into a partnership with edX, the nation's largest provider of online courses known as MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) taken through the edX.org platform to offer college credit.

This exciting collaboration creates the potential for edX learners to earn college credit for any courses reviewed and approved by Charter Oak's Connecticut Credit Assessment Program (CCAP).

Ed Klonoski, President, said, "For Charter Oak, evaluating prior learning for college credit is what we were created to do. Now, we have the opportunity to partner with a worldwide leader in online learning, edX, to award college credit for successful completion of select courses." Klonoski continues, "This partnership reflects our mission of using non-traditional means to speed adults toward the completion of their college degrees in a cost effective manner."

Klonoski added, "This partnership is another innovative strategy for us to increase enrollment and support our sustainability by providing an outstanding value to students. The total cost to students of the course and credit is approximately \$350."

"We are pleased to offer a new pathway to college credit through this collaboration with Charter Oak State College," said Anant Agarwal, edX CEO and MIT Professor. "edX learners around the world will now be able to earn credit for their hard work and success in MOOCs, offering an opportunity to many who would otherwise never have access to high-quality education and credit."

The first two edX courses Charter Oak will offer credit for are open for enrollment now at www.edx.org/charter-oak, and begin in January. They include MITx's



Introduction to Computer Science and Programming Using Python and UC BerkeleyX's Engineering Software as a Service (SaaS) Part 2. Learners can earn three lower level college credits from Charter Oak for the successful completion of the MITx course, and two upper level credits from Charter Oak for the UC BerkeleyX course.

Additional edX courses continue to be reviewed for credit, and will be included in the program in the coming months.

This new collaboration benefits both the College and edX learners in many ways.

By offering course credit for open online courses, Charter Oak provides a pathway for learners to earn accredited college credit for knowledge learned through MOOCs. Students can also learn before paying by first taking the course and then opting to pay upon completion if they want the college credit. This provides qualified students with a pathway for academic exploration who may otherwise not seek college credit.

It's cost effective in that students earn affordable college credit that can then be applied to credentials, continuing

education credits, or completion of a college degree. Lastly, the reach is unlimited with a possible unlimited number of students worldwide who can study and earn credit.

How it Works:

Students enroll as a verified student on edX.org in a course that Charter Oak State College has reviewed and approved for credit. Students then take the course through the edX.org platform. Students have the ability to check at any time as they progress through the course whether they have met the requirements for credit. Once credit eligibility has been attained, a message appears on the student's dashboard and they are sent an email. Students can then complete the request for credit from Charter Oak and fee payment on the edX site. Finally students confirm their credit request with Charter Oak State College. Students will then have credit on a Charter Oak State College transcript that can be used to meet continuing education, professional certification, or degree requirements at other institutions or at Charter Oak State College. 🌱

Come mingle at our Alumni Spring Social!

Evening of art, music, and fabulous food

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, April 29, 2016

6pm-9pm

Location:

**New Britain Museum
of American Art
New Britain, CT**

Visit www.charteroak.edu/alumni/news.cfm
for updates.

