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**UPDATE is edited by Gale Terrill, Commencement Coordinator & Assistant to the Provost**



**From the Desk of the Provost**

The summer semester is quickly flying by. Hopefully you have all registered for the fall semester. As you look through the newsletter you will see that we have some new courses, new programs, and new policies. For those awaiting our Health Information Management degree, it has made it through the state process. Now it has to be approved by our regional accrediting association in the fall.

We were also approved to provide a program leading to the Early Childhood Teaching Credential (ECTC) for CT residents who want to teach in state-funded early childhood programs. Charter Oak has created an ECTC Track within its Early Childhood Studies concentration for students who are seeking their Bachelor's Degree. Students may contact Carole Weisberg at 860-515-3877 or [cweisberg@charteroak.edu](mailto:cweisberg@charteroak.edu) for more information on the concentration in Early Childhood Studies – ECTC Track. For those individuals who already have their Associate or Bachelor's Degrees, Charter Oak has been approved to provide a review process to assist students seeking to meet requirements for the ECTC. For more information on the Individual Review process, contact Amy Watson 860-515-3876 or [awatson@charteroak.edu](mailto:awatson@charteroak.edu).

We have added a number of new teaching faculty. Brief bios are available within the article on New Online Faculty. (page 5) We are also adding a number of new core faculty. These are the faculty who will approve your concentration plans of study. Their bios are also included in the newsletter on page 6.

We have made a number of changes to our policies this year in order to strengthen our academic programs, to help ensure that our students graduate having met our general education outcomes, and to meet state and federal requirements.

To ensure that our students have the writing skills that are necessary to succeed in 300 and 400 level courses, we have made English Composition a prerequisite. Additionally, we will be splitting the Cornerstone course into two courses starting in January --a non-credit self-directed course and a 3-credit instructor led course—so we can better prepare students for the writing required in upper level courses.

Charter Oak faculty have been involved in the general education articulation agreement process between the Connecticut community colleges, the four state universities, and Charter Oak to ensure that students who complete their associates degree at a Connecticut community college can transfer at least 30 credits of their general education to the Connecticut four-year colleges. Dr. Kristine Larsen, Dean of Faculty, has an article on the general education articulation process on page 14.

Graduation was a huge success this year. The rain held off until the ceremony was over and everyone was inside at the reception. Two of our graduates, Alicia York and Joel York from Wisconsin, sang the Star Spangled Banner. It has become a family tradition, as they are the third and fourth from their family to graduate from Charter Oak. Their sister, Danielle, sang at her own graduation ceremony in 2006.

It was a special day for the staff at Charter Oak. The honorary degree committee elected to award our honorary Doctorate to one of our academic advisors, Doris Cassidy who is also one of the founders of the College.

A reminder—for those of you who were paying the annual fee, that fee structure is no longer available. All of our students are now on the semester fee. The fee is due each semester (fall, spring, and summer—even if you are not taking courses) in order to remain matriculated and keep your current degree requirements. The change in our fee reflects the breakdown of the annual fee into three smaller payment periods.

I hope you are enjoying the summer. I encourage you to sign up early for our fall courses.

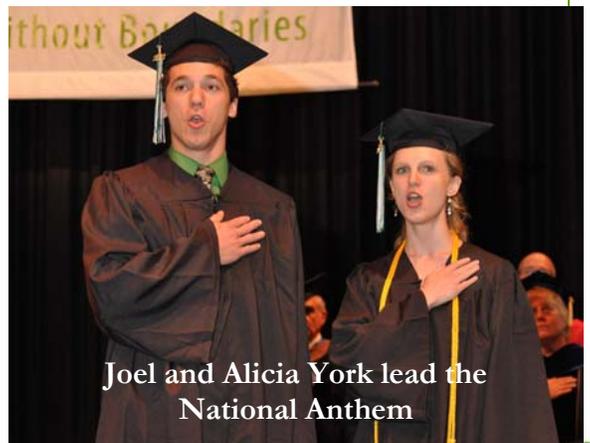
Shirley M. Adams, Provost



President Klonoski mingles with graduates before the ceremony.



Recognition of military graduates



Joel and Alicia York lead the National Anthem



# Undergraduate Program News



## From the Desk of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies

As part of the Assessment Plan at Charter Oak State College, we have subscribed to the ETS® Proficiency Profile. The Proficiency Profile will assess student learning by measuring all of the skills Charter Oak State College values — critical thinking, reading, writing and mathematics — in a single, convenient assessment. The ETS Proficiency Profile is designed to assess the general education outcomes and inform teaching and learning. The assessment will tell the College whether or not the graduates as a group have mastered the general education competencies.

**All students enrolled in the Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 Capstone courses** will be required to take the online assessment upon completion of the course. This is an ungraded assignment and will not impact the final grade for the Capstone course or your graduation.

The assessment is offered as a non-proctored online version. It takes approximately 40 minutes to complete. Upon completion, students will get instant scoring and feedback. The link to the assessment will be available in the Blackboard course shell for students to complete at any time during the term of the course.

To learn more about the ETS® Proficiency Profile, please visit the website at <http://www.ets.org/proficiencyprofile/about>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Dr. Dana A. Wilkie, Academic Dean  
Undergraduate Programs



## Enroll in Your Fall 2012 courses NOW!

Fall registration is currently open. The last day to register for Full Semester, Term 1 and Session 1 courses is **Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 4 p.m.**

**Only payment at time of registration will secure a “seat” in your course.** We recommend that you register early to avoid being closed out of the course you want.

To view a listing of fall courses, click on <https://acorn.charteroak.edu/ics/>.





## Fall 2012 Course Offerings

The following four new courses will be offered in the fall. For additional courses, visit our web site at <https://acorn.charteroak.edu/ics/>

### **EDU 100: Introduction to Paraprofessional Training offered Term 1**

**Margaret R. MacDonald, Ph.D., Instructor**

This 3 credit course provides students with an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the educational paraprofessional. Learning outcomes are based on levels one and two of the National Paraprofessional standards, and include information on behavior techniques, communication, legal issues, instructional strategies, and roles and responsibilities. Students will be provided with numerous modes of learning, including lecture, group discussion, application activities and classroom observations to assist them in learning and demonstrating the content of Introduction to Paraprofessional.

### **MGT 351: Managing a Growing Business offered Term 1**

**Leanna D. Lawter, Ph.D., Instructor**

The focus of this course is to explore a variety of ways in which a business can grow. Some topics covered in the course include how to grow a business using new product and new customer strategies, human resource management issues, how to fund growth, and how to expand the business through licensing, franchise, and expansion. Emphasis will be placed on management practices, innovative marketing, and financial planning. Students will learn how to create a growth plan for a business.

### **MGT 371: Logistics and Supply Chain Management offered Term 2**

**Lewis A. Rosenberg, Instructor**

This course is designed to give the student a perspective into logistics and supply chain management and the practical application of these topics. The course will focus on the physical movement of material and all of the components that make up supply chain management.

### **POL 435: Islamaphobia and Cosmopolitanism offered Term 1**

**Kenneth Long, Ph.D., Instructor**

This course provides an analysis of American and European fear of, and/or hatred for, Islam and Muslims. Emphasis will be placed on the historical determinants of evolving western attitudes and stereotypes directed at Islam and Islamic communities (as well as on the actions and reactions of various Muslim peoples and groups). Considerable attention will be paid to current events and the role of recent and ongoing American warfare in Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere.

Islamic fundamentalism is a rapidly growing political ideology, one often portrayed in the West as reactionary and highly resistant to globalization and to an increasingly cosmopolitan world. Among the central issues in this course are the questions surrounding Western interpretations of, and reaction to, various Islamic perspectives on globalization and cosmopolitanism. Such questions will be considered in comparison to past and present Western stereotypes about Jews.



## Meet Our New Instructors

### **EGR 410 Boundary Law**

**John Doody, PLS/PE** is a professional land surveyor and professional engineer licensed to practice in Connecticut. He has an MS in Environmental Engineering and a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of New Haven, and has taught as an adjunct instructor in introductory surveying, advanced surveying and GPS at Central Connecticut State University for over 20 years.

John is a member of the Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors (CALS) and the New England Section of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. He has received the Surveyor of the Year award from CALS in 1999 and 2001, and is presently the chair of the CALS scholarship committee and the CALS professional development committee. John is also the secretary for the New England Section of ACSM.

### **HRM 312 Employment Law**

**Veronica Gill** is a practicing small business attorney with direct experience in Employment Law and Litigation. She is a member of the Connecticut Bar and the Employment Law section of the American Bar Association. Attorney Gill serves as an Adjunct Lecturer in the Management/MIS Department of the School of Business at Southern Connecticut State University. Ms. Gill fully utilizes her high-tech classrooms to enhance the overall learning experience for students in her courses. She has taught Human Resources Management and The Legal Environment of Business since 2007. In addition, she has conducted Employment Law workshops for aspiring entrepreneurs at the University of Hartford's Center for Professional Development. Attorney Gill is a member of the Advisory Board for the University of Hartford's Entrepreneurial Center sponsored in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

### **MGT 351 Managing a Growing Business**

**Leanna Lawter** is an adjunct professor at Charter Oak State College. She is also an Assistant Professor of Management at the John F. Welch School of Business at Sacred Heart University. Her primary teaching responsibilities include Organizational Management, Business Ethics, Human Resources, and Family Business. Leanna received her PhD in organizational behavior from Baruch College, City University of New York. She also has a MBA from the University of Connecticut, a MS in statistics from the University of Vermont, and a BA from Colgate University.

### **MGT 371 Logistics and Supply Train Management**

**Mr. Lewis Rosenberg** has been working in the field of logistics and supply chain management for over 15 years with some of the most highly regarded companies within the field, including Wal-Mart Distribution, UPS, and Ryder Logistics. Mr. Rosenberg received his BS degree in Business Administration from Northeastern University in the field transportation and logistics. During his undergraduate studies, he completed co-ops with Star Market and United Technologies Pratt & Whitney. He received his MS degree in Management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.





## Meet Our New Core Faculty

### Assessment Committee

**Professor Mary A. Bencivengo** has been a professor of dental hygiene at Tunxis Community College since 1980. She received her M.S. in Administration, Curriculum and Supervision from Central Connecticut State University and her undergraduate degrees in Dental Hygiene from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She has taught many of the courses required for the dental hygiene degree at Tunxis and has served as department chair of the Allied Dental Programs as well as division director of Allied Health and Science.

### Business Committee

**Dr. Renee A. Just** is a full time faculty member at Southern Connecticut State University. She currently teaches Organizational Behavior; Values and Conflicts in Managerial Decision Making; Creativity and Innovation as well as a Management & Organization course.. She has her Ph.D. in Industrial & Organizational Psychology from Capella University in Minnesota and her M.A. from the University of New Haven, Connecticut.

### History and Humanities Committee

**Dr. David A. Levine** has been a full time professor of art at Southern Connecticut State University since 1979. He has his Ph.D. and M.F.A. from Princeton University and his B.A. from Oberlin College. He has taught a variety of art courses at SCSU including the History of Western Art, Modern Art and Baroque Art and is the interim Judaic Studies Program Coordinator.

### Math, Science and Technology Committee

**Dr. Carmen A. Yiamouyiannis** has been a professor in the department of science and math at Capital Community College since 1998. She has her Ph.D. and M.A. in physiology and exercise physiology from Indiana University and her B.A. in biology from Ohio State University. She teaches many courses that support Allied Health and Health care, including Nutrition, General and Intro to Biology, and Anatomy as well as co-authored numerous journal articles.

### Social and Behavioral Science Committee

**Dr. Marie Clucas** is a sociology professor at Tunxis Community College. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Warwick, United Kingdom, her M.S. from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom and her B.A. in Sociology from the University of Connecticut. She teaches Principles of Sociology and Juvenile Delinquency courses.



## Commencement June 3, 2012

For the second year in a row commencement day was absolutely beautiful! Temperatures were in the mid-70's with beautiful blue skies.

We broke last year's attendance record and as you can see, Welte Auditorium was filled to the brim. A new addition to this year's ceremony was bagpiper Jonathan Blum. As the graduates followed Jonathan into the auditorium the audience erupted into cheers and tears! His joyful and soulful music lent even more pomp and circumstance to the ceremony, and we hope to continue this tradition for all subsequent commencement ceremonies.

Another addition to this year's ceremony was the recognition of graduates who served in the military. President Klonoski acknowledged our graduating veterans, those on active duty and in guard and reserve units wearing red, white and blue cords (see photo on page 2). All current and former members of the military in the audience were also asked to stand and be recognized and thanked for their service. The audience erupted with applause and cheers that reverberated throughout the auditorium!

Many of our faculty and staff were on hand to meet our graduates and their very proud families at the brunch preceding the ceremony and at the reception following. If you will be graduating between now and May 31, 2013, we hope to meet you and your families at the June 2, 2013 ceremony!

### **A few facts about this year's class.**

Five hundred and twenty-four graduates comprised the class of 2012. Of those 65% were female and 65% of the graduates were from Connecticut. Graduates represented 38 states and 5 countries (Canada, Australia, Guam, Qatar, and Switzerland), as well as graduates serving overseas in the armed services. The average age was 39 and their ages ranged from 19 to 68.

This year we had a brother and sister graduate, Alicia and Joel York. Siblings Charissa, Danielle and Erin also earned degrees from Charter Oak and Danielle sang the Star Spangled Banner at her commencement ceremony.

We had a mother and daughter graduate, and one of our graduates was a medical doctor in her home country, and completed a degree in early childhood so she could fulfill her dream of being a teacher.

The Board of Regents and the College awarded the honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, to one of Charter Oak State College's founders, **Doris G. Cassidy (right)**.

Ms. Cassidy, who is currently the Assistant Director of Academic Programs and an academic advisor, has been an integral part of the College since its beginning.



When the College was established by the legislature in 1973, Ms. Cassidy served as the first Chair for the Board for State Academic Awards, then as Vice-Chair and Secretary between 1973 and 1984. When the Charter Oak State College Foundation was created, she served as the first Foundation President and then as Executive Director from 1980 - 1995.

As an academic advisor for over 25 years, she has assisted more of the College's 11,500 graduates in earning their bachelor's degree than anyone else.

In 1998, our Board established an award in the name of Ms. Cassidy in recognition of her lifelong commitment to adult education and her commitment to the College. The Doris G. Cassidy Award is given each year to one or more graduates who have achieved excellence in learning by earning credits through multiple methods and thereby exemplifying the essence of the Charter Oak mission.

**The following students were the 2012 Doris G. Cassidy recipients (right)**

- Linda M. Benedict, Bethel, Connecticut
- Glenn M. Buonanducci , Broad Brook, CT
- Glenn R. Flynn, Fair Lawn, NJ
- Valerie J. Howe, Cos Cob, CT
- Lea L. Lemay, South Windsor, CT
- Alicia C. York, Greenfield, WI



The following award winners were not present:  
Keith D. Dorsey, Laguna Niguel, CA and

Lt. Cmdr. Timothy M. McClellan, Carrollton, VA.



Tara Keating (left), Project Coordinator at the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority, gave the "Message from the Graduates." Here are some excerpts from her speech.

Tara noted "I still remember the first call I made to Charter Oak State College. I anxiously dialed and Doris Cassidy answered the call. Before Doris could even take a breath- I urgently announced "I need to get my college degree!" She was warm and calm, and she said "Wonderful, what field of study would you like to pursue?" ... I did not know; I had no idea. I only knew I needed a college degree to go further in life. But, before I could say another word, Doris did not falter- she said "it will be ok, we will get this done- you made the first step toward your college degree." I am so glad she answered my call."

"Speak about your achievement and experience to others, be proud. Many people are curious about on-line learning today. . . .we can proudly explain to others that we, Charter Oak State College grads, received the most cutting edge form of education available today.

You may run into a person or two who questions your on-line education. Do not ever, ever let anyone condescend to your method of acquiring knowledge. The classes at Charter Oak are taught by professors within Connecticut as well as across the United States- from schools such as Yale, NYU, Harvard, UCONN, and the list goes on. Online study and learning is becoming one of the most affordable, and flexible types of learning available today."





The Processional



Piper Jonathan Blum  
Dr. Jeffrey Crouch, Marshal



*Graduation Highlights,  
June 3, 2012*



The turning of the tassel (It's official!)





## Reminder!

### Graduation Fee Deadline!

Beginning August 2012, Charter Oak will award degrees three times a year (on May 31, August 31, and December 31) instead of six times a year. Diplomas will also be issued three times a year, 4-6 weeks after the May, August and December conferral dates.

Please note that your degree will not be awarded if you have an outstanding balance on your account. To receive your diploma, you must also have completed your financial aid exit interview (if applicable). If you have any questions, please contact Paul Morganti, Associate Registrar, at [pmorganti@charteroak.edu](mailto:pmorganti@charteroak.edu).

**The annual commencement ceremony will be the first Sunday in June, 2013.**



### Criteria for Letters Confirming Your Graduation

We receive a number of requests from students asking that a letter be sent to a college or to an employer verifying the date of their graduation. We are more than happy to honor this request. However, you should **not** make the request unless the following criteria have **ALL** been met:

1. Your academic autobiography or your concentration and essay has been **approved**.
2. You have submitted your graduation application and survey (see deadlines for submission).
3. You have completed **all** academic requirements (contact your academic counselor).
4. **All** of your transcripts have been **received** by Charter Oak.
5. **All** fees have been paid (including the graduation fee).
6. **All financial aid requirements** have been completed.

When you have met the above criteria, requests should be made in writing to the Associate Registrar, Paul Morganti, 55 Paul J. Manafort Drive, New Britain, CT 06053, or email [pmorganti@charteroak.edu](mailto:pmorganti@charteroak.edu). The request should include the name, title and address of the recipient.



## Student News and Services

### Hint, Hint: How to Register for a Course

- Consult your Advising Worksheet by logging into ACORN at <https://acorn.charteroak.edu> to see what you still need to accomplish.
- Search the list of fall courses on ACORN at <https://acorn.charteroak.edu> (upper right)
- Check out the syllabi at: <http://www.charteroak.edu/syllabus/>

#### **If you are unsure about your course selections, contact your Academic Counselor**

Ron Banks [rbanks@charteroak.edu](mailto:rbanks@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3867

Delores Bell [dbell@charteroak.edu](mailto:dbell@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3845

Doris Cassidy [dcassiday@charteroak.edu](mailto:dcassiday@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3840

Ann Marie Gagnon [agagnon@charteroak.edu](mailto:agagnon@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3843

Linda Larkin [llarkin@charteroak.edu](mailto:llarkin@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3841

Paige Pelton [ppelton@charteroak.edu](mailto:ppelton@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3842

Karen Schultz [kschultz@charteroak.edu](mailto:kschultz@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3847

Carole Weisberg [cweisberg@charteroak.edu](mailto:cweisberg@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3877

Josi Zendzian [jzendzian@charteroak.edu](mailto:jzendzian@charteroak.edu) (860) 515-3844

- **Please allow at least 24 – 48 hours to receive a response from your counselor.**
- Register for all of your fall courses at one time.
- Don't register until you're certain that the courses you have selected are your final choices. This will avoid drop/adds which can be problematic.
- Be mindful of the deadline to pay for your course(s). Courses that are not paid for by the deadline will be dropped.
- The deadline for registering for full semester, term 1 and session 1 fall courses is 8/22/12.
- Don't wait until the class begins to order your books. You will need them as soon as the class starts.
- Be realistic about the time that you can spend on your courses. Don't sign up for more than you can handle. Working on your degree should be interesting and challenging, not overly stressful.
- **If you're about to begin your first online course,** participate in one of the **How to Navigate an Online Course** workshops that will be offered in August. Choose the type that works best for you – online or on ground. (See article on How to Navigate an Online Course). In addition, once you're in the course click on "How to Get Started."





**Are you thinking about taking an online course but are unsure about your ability to be successful?**

**Let us help you!**

We'll show you how to:

- Submit an assignment as an attachment;
- Locate the syllabus and learning units;
- Make postings in the discussion board
- **All** the tasks that you need to master to be successful at on-line learning!

**Choose the workshop that works best for you**

**In person workshop:**

**Wednesday, August 15  
6:30 to 8:00p.m.**

Join us for an on-site demo by Dan Facchinetti and Jen Schaefer. This hands-on workshop will guide you through actual course sites. The workshop will take place at Central Connecticut State University's Vance Academic Center, room 003. Free of charge and refreshments will be served.

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!**

For **reservations** please call Linda Larkin at (860) 832-3841 or email her at [llarkin@charteroak.edu](mailto:llarkin@charteroak.edu)

**Online group workshop:**

**Monday, August 27  
7 to 8 p. m.**

Dan Facchinetti will provide an online demo covering the above topics. There may be a course instructor on hand to give a professor's point of view on how to manage your online course. Look for an email in mid-August with details about how to join this online workshop.

**NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**Individualized Appointment:**

We will have options for phone, web, and in person individual appointments with Jen Schaefer. Contact her **after** August 10<sup>th</sup> to set up a time at the Academic Counseling Office at [advising@charteroak.edu](mailto:advising@charteroak.edu).



## Student Association News: Make a Difference

Each year your Student Association sponsors events (both in person and online) to enrich your experience at Charter Oak. These events are planned by the Student Association officers and board members. This is a volunteer group that is small in number but they make important decisions. Please consider joining. The time commitment is minimal (just 2 or 3 meetings a year) and you do not need to be in Connecticut. We are happy to include you by using a computer or telephone connection.

What does this group do? They plan programs that they believe would be beneficial and of interest to their fellow students. The more students who participate in decision-making, the greater the chances of making choices that will spark the interest of the student body. Within the past few years we sponsored several webcasts on job related topics such as “what’s hot and what’s not” in the job market, interviewing skills and using social media for professional growth.

Got some ideas that you think we should implement? No ideas now, but you’re interested in dialoging with other Charter Oak students? Let us know you’re willing to join. Contact Linda Larkin, Director of Academic Services, at [llarkin@charteroak.edu](mailto:llarkin@charteroak.edu) or telephone her at (860) 515-3841.

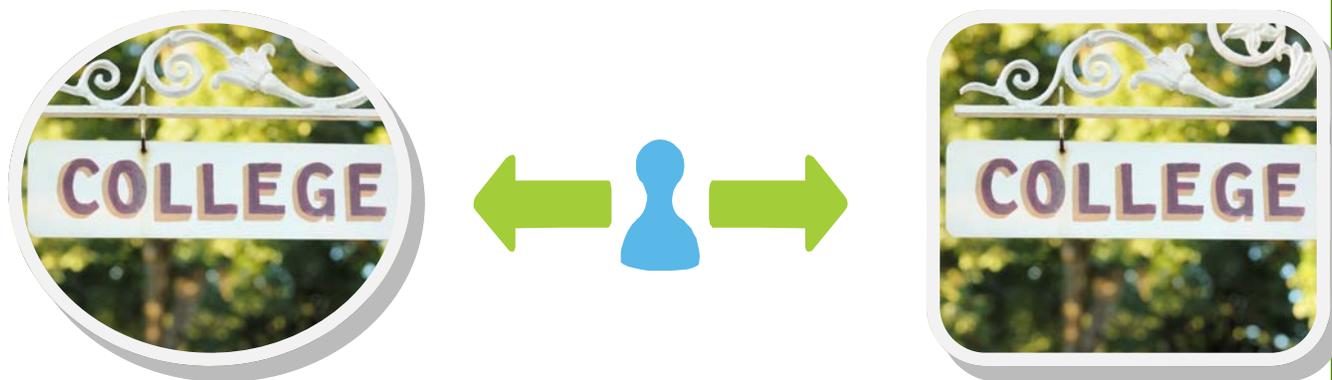


## New Staff at Charter Oak

### **Dr. Frank Valier, Coordinator Health Information Management Program**

On May 18, 2012 the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education approved Charter Oak State College's first major - an online bachelor's degree completion program in Health Information Management. The program now goes to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) for approval. The College plans to begin offering courses for this new major in late October. The College has hired a HIM Program Coordinator, Dr. Frank Valier to manage the delivery of the program.

Dr. Valier has over 30 years experience in the IT field as an entrepreneur and consultant to various organizations. His most recent research is titled the, “*Adoption of EMR/EHR by Board Registered Physicians in the Springfield, MA MSA: Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin Counties*”. He is an adjunct at various institutions and teaches courses in the American Healthcare System and Healthcare Information Technologies.



## Update on the Transfer Articulation Program (TAP)

The Transfer Articulation Program is designed to allow ease of transfer between the two and four-year public colleges in CT.

The TAP Steering Committee (comprised of one member from the four Connecticut State Universities, Charter Oak State College, and the twelve Community Colleges) has been diligently meeting since June. Our task includes developing a concrete framework for the new 30 credit general education core that includes the eight competencies identified by the Board of Regents. In addition, each of the eight competencies has a subcommittee made up of 8 members (one each from the CSUs, one from COSC, and three representatives for the Community College System). These subcommittees/competencies are:

- Written and Oral Communications in English Committee
- Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning
- Critical Analysis and Logical Thinking
- Continuing Learning, including Information Literacy
- Scientific Knowledge/Understanding
- Historical Knowledge/Understanding
- Social Phenomena
- Appreciation of the Aesthetic and Ethical Dimensions of Humankind

Each of the subcommittees has developed drafts of measurable learning outcomes and goal statements, which the Steering Committee is in the process of revising. The final learning outcomes and goals, as well as the overall framework, will be presented to Board of Regents in the Fall for their approval. The next step for each subcommittee will be to develop rubrics for assessing the learning outcomes. The Steering Committee will continue to coordinate the work of the subcommittees once the Board has approved the General Education Core framework.

One of the important points of this entire process is that individual campuses will have complete control over how individual courses fit into the new framework. I am pleased to say that COSC already has an excellent system in place to review courses for general education designations, so I expect that COSC will be among the least affected institutions by this entire project.

It has been an honor to serve you as the COSC representative to the Steering Committee as well as COSC representative to the Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning Committee.

Dr. Kristine Larsen, Dean  
Charter Oak State College Faculty