

THE HAWK

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BCC Welcomes New President

By Brian Casey, Managing Editor; Ashlee Stockham, Staff Writer;
S. Marshall, Staff Writer; Seth Callina, Staff Writer



President Laura Douglas Ph. D. in Higher Education
Photographed by: James Dugas

This fall is the start of a new year and a new saga in the lives of many freshman students at BCC. Among the throngs of freshman students, however, is a new staff member as well: President Laura Douglas, Ph.D. in Higher Education.

Proceeding John J. Sbrega, who retired after 17 years as the college's president, Laura Douglas, Ph.D, took up the mantle. In a recent interview with The HAWK staff, she expressed her hopes for the future, both for the college and its students, hands expressive as she spoke. "This is the time that I am really watching and observing," she explained when questioned about her future plans for the college.

President Douglas, despite having only been in the role since July 1st of this year, has already shown her activity in programs here at BCC. Her appearances include visiting the STEM Boot Camp, attending the opening of Kathie Florsheim's gallery exhibition and speaking at a DACA forum held at the college. The forum, an event to express support to students affected by DACA, included faces such as Congressman Kennedy, BCC's Vice President Ozug and President Laura Douglas herself.

"That was a way to begin the process of educating our students and the community

about the changes that were happening," she explained when asked about the forum.

Regarding how she hopes to help DACA affected students feel more comfortable on campus, she mentioned sessions to help educate students on their rights and resources for faculty. "We built a website with all the resources so that we could help students [with] renewals...It's been a long educational process." Leaning back in her chair, she smiled. "I told my leadership team, it's not just about making a statement; it is then about follow-through and providing the actions. So what do we do as a community to support these students?"

In the discussion, it became clear that an important part of her mission here as president of the college was to increase the communication between the administration and the student body. A desire to create a connection to minority students was also apparent, especially in light of events such as the repeal of DACA. "They're not necessarily policy changes, but they are changes that are very important... We're doing some different things [including] specialized outreach," Douglas stated.

Upon being asked what she would like to say to the minority groups on campus, she seemed thoughtful, "The

The Hawk

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Letter from the Editor

Brian Casey | Managing Editor |bcasey13@bristolcc.edu



Welcome new students, staff, and returning students alike.
Another semester is upon us.

We have been busy over the summer: The first and most evident change is the title of the newspaper itself. The Observer is no more, rising dramatically from the ashes like a phoenix is:

THE HAWK

We would love your opinion on the redesigning of our college's newspaper. Feel free to contact us at: bccthehawk@gmail.com

Sincerely yours,
Brian Casey
Managing Editor

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PRESIDENT DOUGLAS CONTINUED

most important thing is that we strive and will strive to be as inclusive and welcoming and helpful as possible," she said, folding together the hands she'd been avidly gesturing with.

Establishing communication with the general student population also took precedence. Pensive, she commented on the BCC homepage. "The website has not been very user friendly, so [the marketing team] are tasked [with] rebuilding that. I've also tasked them with developing a social ambassador program to enable students, faculty and staff to be ambassadors for BCC on social media," she stated.

Social ambassadors, according to the BCC website, establishes an opportunity for hardworking students to participate in events relating to public relations. They would be a part of visiting high schools, community outreach and a series of other events designed to reward students with leadership opportunities.

But her plan to create stronger communication with the student body doesn't stop there. "We're looking at the retention of students and making sure that we have the best practices in place to help students. so that they don't drop out," she explained. "We have our college accreditation review coming up... College accreditation is very important to us. It's what enables the student to receive financial aid," she added.

On the subject of college, the topic of her academic career came into play. With a smile, President Douglas opened up, "I wasn't the best student in high school, but I was a good student in high school, and I got into every single [college] that I applied to," she said.

However, she quickly found her college experience more difficult than her previous education, having asked much more of her in the way of studying. "I did not have to study a lot in high school. I'd go to class. I'd do my work. I'd study on the bus for tests...I never felt it was that challenging...When I got to college, I did the same thing...I studied in college the way I studied in high school; and when I had my first set of exams, I did not do well. I had C's and D's, and it was not the Laura Douglas that I had known in high school. I really had to do a 180...I had to really focus very, very much on what I needed to do to be a good college student."

As her college years went by, President Douglas, who was studying social work at the time, ultimately found her calling in education. Speaking about the transition, Douglas said, "[Students] really need supports and scaffolding. They need to develop that confidence that they don't have, and it's not that they don't have it in themselves; you all have it in yourselves, but sometimes, you just need a little help in showing how you can be independent and develop

those skills and how you put it all together."

Throughout her academic career, President Douglas expressed her appreciation for being able to travel, fostering a love of language and cultural exchanges for years. "I studied Spanish longer than I needed to for admission into college...I did it because I loved it," she said. Douglas discussed visiting countries for work or education spanning from Mexico to Japan. She also detailed a trip abroad paid for by her grandfather, a Fall River man whose parents immigrated to the area.

Upon being asked about how she felt returning to Fall River, where her family came from, she gave a wry smile. "It's really that things have come full circle for me...There were a lot of references to Fall River when I was a child. [My grandfather] would tell us about Lizzie Borden and would [say] the poem...One of the things that he would do was sing the song, the Old Fall River Line."

When questioned about the song, she responded eagerly. "It's a railroad song; my grandfather was a railroad worker...My great grandfather repaired looms." Upon delving into her family history, she expressed her pride in her parents, both from single parent households, being the first in their families to graduate from college.

President Douglas discussed her two sisters in brief, mentioning one older and the other younger. "Smack dab in the middle," she said proudly, detailing their careers, displaying pride for her family. "I know that my grandparents would be very proud of everything my sisters and I have accomplished."

The HAWK and its staff wish President Laura Douglas a successful and fulfilling experience in her role as president of Bristol Community College.



Left to right: Seth Callina, S Marshall, Ashlee Stockham and Brian Casey. Photographed by: James Dugas



Students working on their calendars at the Boot Camp.
Photographed by: Brian Casey

DIVISION III HOLDS CSS BOOT CAMP FOR STUDENTS

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Division III, the Business and Information Management division here at BCC, held their College Success Seminar Boot Camp at the Fall River campus in August. CSS, or college success seminar, is a required course for all new students designed to help them become familiar with the college's resources and begin to make connections with faculty, staff, and support services.

According to the BCC website, "by clarifying the values and purposes of higher education, students gain an understanding of the skills, tools, and competencies needed to be a successful college student."

As part of this course, students explore and utilize college-based technology resources, such as accessBCC and DegreeWorks. Students learn to identify and apply their learning style to academic courses and study skills while developing their academic and career goals. Typically, this course runs thirteen weeks.

The Business and Information Management division does it a little differently; the CSS Boot Camp, a name picked to highlight the difficulty of the event, is a thirteen week course in only seven hours.

The day started off with registration and a welcome speech by the new

BCC President, Laura Douglas Ph.D. in Higher Education. She greeted the students, congratulating them on becoming official Bayhawks. Following was the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Greg Sethares.

Sethares' major point to the students was to "use the resources that are offered to you as a student...If it's getting extra help in a course with a tutor at the Learning Commons or just talking to your professor about what he said in class that day, it will be well worth the extra effort."

Dean William Berardi, the Dean of Division III, welcomed the students and spoke on division policies. Berardi encouraged the students to do homework and go to all their classes. "The piece of paper you get is worth all the hard work and time you spend," Berardi said.

Professor of accounting Dorris Perryman also addressed the students. Perryman spoke on time management, study skills, and the code of conduct and helped students make a calendar to write down all the things they need to do in a day.

Perryman also recommended posting the calendar in a specific spot where "you can see what you need to do the next day," insisting that following the schedule would help with time planning

and managing hours for studying.

When it came to managing study skills, Perryman stated "every three credits equals to nine hours of study time." Perryman also stated that students should not have the radio or TV on in the background to avoid distractions. She finished off, encouraging the students. "Write down important dates for quizzes or tests two weeks in advance," Perryman stressed.

Perryman carried on to her last topic, the BCC Code of Conduct. Students can find a copy of this in the student planners found free of charge at the Student Life office in G building. The most important policy that Perryman wanted to enforce is on plagiarism. "If it is not your work, do not submit it as yours unless you give credit to the author," she said.

In K building, advisors were waiting to give students a guide on how advising works and what important dates students need to know. An advising team member stated, "the most important date students need to know is when you pick your classes for the following semester, which is in April and November."

The event closed with a drawing for the students that participated in the program, with a lucky winner walking away with a new printer and computer.

Director of Office of Student Life Kathy Burns explained what activities

are offered through her office during the school year and what clubs and organizations students can join, like the student senate, "Troy City Review," Hero Club and many more. The full list of available clubs on campus can be found on the BCC website.

Speaking on the services offered at the Writing Center in the Learning Commons was the Writing Center Coordinator Michael Geary. He spoke of how the writing center tutors, located in B110 in Fall River assists students with a term paper or any writing a student needs for classes, or otherwise.

Then students marched over to K building to learn about the technology offered to BCC students. April Bellafiore, the Dean of eLearning, spoke on Blackboard, the eLearning site students will likely be using for their classes. Bellafiore demonstrated how to get the class assignments, how to get tests, how to check their grades, how to email their professors or classmates, and how to submit their work.

Prof. Ilana Offenberger

of UMass Dartmouth speaks at Holocaust Center

Seth Callina | Staff Writer | scallina11@bristolcc.edu

On Monday, September 21st, students and families were invited to view a lecture by speaker Ilana Offenberger on the plight of Austrian Jews during the years of the Nazi Regime, sponsored by the BCC Holocaust Center. The Holocaust Center sponsors speakers, workshops, conferences and has a small library of Holocaust and genocide material for use by the BCC community and the general public.

Dr. Ilana Offenberger is a professor of history at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. She spoke about a history she feels, "a history that we all share. It is, regardless of our backgrounds, this is our history—our shared history— and it's going to be our future." Offenberger stressed that it's very important that "we all learn not only what happened during the genocide, but during the pre-genocidal period...which has to do with the discrimination, persecution and isolation of other peoples."

Offenberger praised BCC, the Holocaust Center, and the school library for the invitation to give her lecture, as well as her approval of the literature available to students. "I want to thank Ron Weisberger for this opportunity to speak at the Holocaust Center—through the Holocaust Center—and I want to let all the students know how privileged they are to have a program like

this at a small community college. There are so many holocaust books that have been donated to this center, so students should be sure to take advantage of that," Offenberger said.

The event was intentionally held during lunch hours, as part of a new schedule for the Holocaust Center. According to Director Ron Weisberger, "This is the third year of our Holocaust Center, and this is the first year that we've done lunchtime lectures, so we're going to see how many people show up," he said.

Weisberger shared his enthusiasm for the subject and his hopes to see more students attend, "I think it's a very important subject, given it's always important to know about the holocaust and the genocide. It's even more important today, I think, given the rise of anti-semitism and racism—students need to know the history of this, and what happens when things get out of kilter...and people start thinking that some people are not worth living."

Weisberger also referenced the white nationalist and Ku Klux Klan rallies that took place in Charlottesville, Virginia in August of this year, where race-related events took place, upon being asked what the mission of the center is.

When asked about the topicality of the Holocaust Center's mission, Weisberger referenced recent events. "We had Charlottesville, months ago, where we had Neo-Nazis and Ku Klux Klan people, marching with torches... Saying 'we're against African-Americans, we're against Jews.' So here we are, In 2017, with the same mindset..."

Attendance of the lecture included students, both on their own and in groups, as well as several families and senior citizens. The turnout showed a number of enthusiastic listeners, filling half the seats in the lecture hall.



Let us not forget the injustice.
Photograph from:
BCC Holocaust Center Facebook

Harvest Festival!

Top Left: Photographed by James Dugas
Top Right: Photographed S Marshall
Bottom Left: Photographed S Marshall
Bottom Right: Photographed S Marshall



Top Left: Photographed by S Marshall
Bottom Left: Photographed by S Marshall
Bottom Right: Photographed by James Dugas



THE BENEFITS OF VINYL

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In a world full of constantly changing technology, there are endless ways for a person to listen to music. The most common methods used today are indulging in mp3 files and streaming from the internet.

Despite all the different avenues a person can take to enjoy music, collecting and playing vinyl records has survived the test of time. But why would you invest in these huge records that take up more space in your home than a thousand songs on your phone does? Are

there any real benefits to using this outdated form of technology? For collectors, purists and avid listeners, the answer is yes.

In truth, new vinyl isn't cheap, ranging anywhere from \$15 to \$100 per album. Used vinyl is the way to go, if you're on a low budget. Most used albums are \$20 or less, unless what you're looking for is rare. There can also be a notable amount of time and money spent driving to record stores and spending hours flipping through stacks of records. You could look at hundreds of vinyl and not find one that you are interested in.

To record buffs, the hunt is part of why collecting vinyl is so stimulating. Of course you could just purchase your vinyl online at one of the many websites; however, when buying vinyl that has been used already, it is much safer to check with your own eyes if there are any bad scratches that could make a part of the record unplayable. Another aspect is the personal effort--constantly getting up every time the record ends to flip or change it, putting the records back into their sleeves without damaging them, cleaning and maintenance of the records and the player.

The work however, is worth it, according to BCC student, Jackie, 22, "The effort makes you more involved; the whole experience demands your atten-

tion." But the fact remains; it does require more work than just throwing on Pandora and going about your business.

When playing a record instead of streaming it online, you have a tangible object to experience. The smooth, cardboard jacket has weight. Artwork decorates the cover and the track listing can be read if you turned it over. Some jackets fold open, revealing more artwork, lyrics, and information about the artist. You have not even listened to it yet, but your brain is being stimulated by all the data it is receiving. After examining the jacket, you slide it from its inner sleeve, noticing the circular grooves and the center label. You place it on the turntable and drop the needle at the edge. Your ears are met with the sounds of crackling and popping, the needle catching dust while the record spins towards the first track.

To avid vinyl users, this is ritual. Experiencing the artwork and learning about the album becomes part of listening to and experiencing the music. Hearing the crackle of the needle in between the songs becomes a nostalgic event. I talked to Bruce, born in 1948, about listening to a vinyl in 2017. He said it reminds him of "being a teenager, playing pool and spinning his dad's old records with his friends after school."

Even if you were born in the era of CDs and mp3s, the process of using vinyl has its history. Mike, 39 years old, collector of vinyl and regular mp3 user said, "Vinyl is just cooler. It sends you back to that place in time and you get to experience what it was like. The music has more depth." There also exists a connection to old vinyl having been previously owned and after years of abuse, has found its way onto your turntable.

Audio quality also comes into play here. Technology can clean and polish any song or album removing sounds captured during the recording process. The

See Vinyl Page 9



A vinyl record and record player.
Photographed by: Chris Norton

VINYL Albums

Vinyl Continued from Page 8

same song sounds different on vinyl opposed to mp3. You hear the different layers of the music that are not detectable through digital files. It makes the music visual.

Vinyl albums used to be analog recordings, a method of recording music that was meant to preserve the original sound waves. But new vinyl in stores today are made through digital recording, where samples of the original sound are layered to create the song at a particular rate. Despite this, some bands still release analog albums. Music lovers will choose a record over digital media because they want to hear every sound and note unedited.

A growing number of people around the world are engaging in the use of vinyl. Artists new and old are re-releasing their old albums with bonus content and literature because of the recent boom in vinyl sales. There was a spike of 53% between 2015 and 2016; the highest since 1991.

How long will people seek out the experience of vinyl records? Will un-suppressed audio always be important enough to sustain an industry in our culture? Only time will tell.

BCC CAMPUS POLICE SPONSOR SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNITY DAY

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On September 30th, BCC held its second "Community Day," a public and family-friendly event inviting several local businesses and non-profit organizations to the campus. Attending guests were students and their families and the local residents, many of which shared their enjoyment of the entertainment and the wide variety of activities for both them and their kids.

According to Keith, a fifty-three-year-old local, "They're bringing the community together with the police, and there's a lot of different things for young people. ... I think it's terrific," he said.

He added, "You've got a good mix of food. You've got [bouncy houses] for the kids. You get to learn a few things with these tables." Guests were able to learn about a wide variety of organizations and causes including

the BCC Dental Hygiene Club, the S.E. MA Veteran's Transition House, and SouthBay Community Services. Regarding the many charity and public service booths, he stated, "It's all good to get that out to the public."

Even for independent charities attending, the presence of BCC students connected with guests. Jillian Vieira, second year student of the Clinical Lab Science Program, represented "Be The Match," a medical charity project operated by the National Marrow Donor Program.

In her own words, Vieira was "trying to get the word out, as far as being able to get on the donor registry so that people and children... in need of a match [can find one]." Guests could sign a form for a cheek swab, confirming eligibility to become a bone marrow donor.

In addition, Vieira claimed that many people have difficulty volunteering for the program, citing infamous concerns with the procedure: "People are afraid of it, they think it's the same...as it was in the past...[where] they take an aspirate from your hip, and it can be painful...They shouldn't be afraid of it today, it's not done the same way... It's actually really easy and you could potentially save a life."

The event came about from a concept by Officer Rob Plummer of the Campus Police Department, hoping to bring students and locals together in a friendly, fun, and progressive environment: "This is just an event about tolerating each other, accepting each other, getting together, putting all your social media aside and just enjoying our fellow human being[s]."



Officer Rob Plummer.
Photographed by: Seth Callina

Student Perspectives

Photographs taken and submitted by students of BCC

To submit your photos, send them to bccthehawk@gmail.com

Photographed by: James Dugas



SPIRIT WEEK!



Top Left: *Friends forever*
Top Right: *BCC New Mascot*
Bottom Right: *President Douglas Speaking to Student*
Photographed by: Brian Casey

BCC Holds Forum on DACA

Ashlee Stockham | Staff Writer | astockham11@bristolcc.edu

On Friday, September 15, 2017, a DACA Forum was held at Bristol Community College's Fall River campus hoping to inform and support the students and families being affected by President Trump's decision to end DACA, standing for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

DACA is a bill that has provided a pathway to legal status for undocumented youth who came to this country as children, according to the American Immigration Council.

This bill allows them to go into the workforce and educational system, and to keep them from being deported. It is not a way towards citizenship, but a method to provide fair opportunities for everyone. There are about 750,000 young people currently under DACA in the United States.

The bill, put into place through President Obama's executive order in 2012, was the first to address illegal child arrivals that passed. When it comes to the individuals under DACA attending a facility for higher education, Vice President Steve Ozug mentioned that, "My understanding is that they do not qualify for financial aid...[but are] eligible for scholarships."

President Trump, elected in the closing months of 2016, decided to end DACA leaving Congress with six months to change or replace the bill. But for people who have never been a part of DACA, it is too late to apply. These individuals may be at risk for deportation.

For those who are due for renewal after March 5, 2018, they are no longer eligible to renew their status under DACA, but they will stay active until their expiration date. It is highly advised that all individuals affected stay informed.

According to the "Chicago Tribune," the following fifteen states are suing the Trump Administration for their actions relating to DACA: New York, Massachusetts, Washington, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia.

At the meeting regarding DACA, the President of the college, Laura Douglas Ph.D., advised professors and students not being directly affected by DACA to "make sure we provide emotional support...encourage DACA students to check their status...[and] remember to be proactive."

As every individual spoke at the meeting, there were a few universal messages, including there is always hope. The legislative system is constantly evolving and altering bills and laws. Along with that was a message to reach out to state representatives and to make your voice heard.

From the sixth Bristol district, Representative Carole A. Fiola, said that she "suggests letters to congressmen." "They need to hear from all parts of the country," Fiola stressed.

A point that needs to be stressed in a time such as this is that knowledge is power. "Community colleges are for everyone," Douglas stated. "And BCC is a safe place for everyone."

For any additional information, please check the BCC website. Reach out to professors, therapists, or any other resources that will be able to help find the appropriate steps for an individual's situation that can offer some advice along the way.

When questioned about how to make BCC's DACA-affected students more comfortable, Douglas replied, "The most important thing is that we strive and will strive to be as inclusive and welcoming and helpful as possible."

DACA College Community Forum
Photographed by: Brian Casey

