

From the Desk of the CEO

Update from Capital CEO, Dr. G. Duncan Harris



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Dear Friend,,

We've reached the mid-summer point and I hope you are enjoying it as safely as possible. Like you, I am taking a little time to stop and "smell the roses" and recently celebrated my 50th birthday. I'd like to thank everyone that donated to the CCC Foundation CEO 50th Fundraiser and I'm pleased to share that in one week, we raised \$6,110 for student success. I am truly

grateful for the overwhelming support and can think of no better way to usher in my 50's than raising funds for CCC.

Capital continues to remain vigilant with regard to our fall COVID-19 reopening preparations. While emphasizing safety, we will continue to provide our students with the opportunity to continue their education and progress to degree completion. Equipping our students with a credential that leads to employment and job security is critical during this period of U.S. history. To mitigate virus exposure, 85% of our fall classes will be fully online this fall, 13% hybrid, and only 2% fully unground. The safety of students, faculty, and staff is of the utmost priority and the following CDC and State of Connecticut protocols have been implemented:

- *Masks must be worn while on campus*
- *Building occupancy is capped at 50% of capacity*
- *Increased cleaning and sanitation protocols throughout campus*
- *Developing and maintaining appropriate social distancing protocols*

I've been truly impressed and reassured by the diligence with which our team and college community have responded to this pandemic, #TheCapitalWay.

Sincerely,



SPECIAL EVENTS

Faculty & Staff Forum Responds To Racism, Protests

CCC's Faculty and Staff Forum Concerning the Recent Acts of Racism and Inhumanity Impacting Our Nation, held via Webex on June 10th, drew 114 faculty and staff members.

I'd like to thank our presenters: UCONN History Professor Jeffrey O. G Ogbar, Dr.

Samantha Smalls, LCSW, New Chapter Counselling Services and Connecticut Poet

Laureate Frederick-Douglass Knowles II, a Three Rivers Community College Professor of English. They were joined by our faculty members: Jeffrey Partridge, Josiah Ricardo, Lisa Braverman and Cleo Rolle who shared their hearts and minds with colleagues.

The words that come to mind to describe the forum demonstrate the value of continuing the dialogue: powerful, therapeutic, committed, unifying, energizing, action, strategy, transformative and emotional.

This was a way for our college faculty and staff to be together, even if it was remote, in an institutional stance against intolerance that breeds violence. It was a way to stand with those exercising their constitutional right to protest the pandemic known as racism.

This is the *first of MANY institutional efforts CCC will make to combat systems of injustice and racism* going forward.

CCC Faculty and Staff Forum



Concerning the recent acts of racism and inhumanity impacting our nation.

Wednesday, June 10
9:30 am - 11 am

This program is sponsored by the Office of the CEO and will include reflections of the heart and shared experiences from a diverse set of colleagues and guests.



#DestinationCapital

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Hartford Stage's Scene And Heard Brings Church & Main Neighbors Together

I was a guest on Scene and Heard, the weekly virtual discussion hosted by my buddy, Hartford Stage Artistic Director Melia Bensussen.

The talk focused on the assets of the city and opportunities for our “Block” - Church and Main - to be a hot spot of community activity. Other guests included Sara Bronin, chair of Hartford’s Planning and Zone Commission and the Very Rev. Miguelina Howell of Christ Church Cathedral.

The evening ended with a customary toast and joint reading of the poem, “Is This Really Broad Street, Hartford?” by Bessy Reyna. Capital was well represented in the reading, including CCC Professor Extraordinaire, Dr. Antoinette Brim, Director of Marketing and Public Relations Vivian Nabeta, and three of our students.

To watch *Scene and Heard*, click [here](#).



COVID-19 Video Series: Capital Faculty Provides Insights, Facts About Pandemic

When COVID 19 hit our community in March, our campus responded in a number of ways. Our faculty converted all of their classes to an online format and our student affairs staff converted supports to a distance format so our students could complete their studies, We donated our personal protective equipment (PPE) to St. Francis and Hartford Hospitals for their front-line workers, and we used grant funds from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and [CCC Foundation](#) to purchase computers for students that needed them and to provide them with short term emergency grants for basic needs.

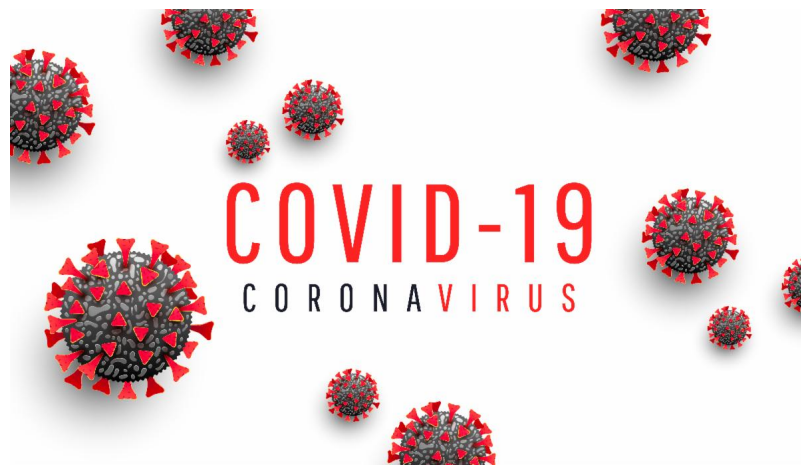
Dr. Cleo Rolle, the coordinator of CCC's biotechnology program and Dr. Adolfo Sanchez-Blanco, biology professor, put together a workshop for faculty, staff, and students as soon as the pandemic hit in March. *We're all aware of how critical it is for our community to have scientific facts during this era of misinformation.* They decided that our institution should be availing this information to a larger audience (#TheCapitalWay) and over the past few weeks, *they put together a [YouTube video series](#) that we are sharing now covering the following topics:*

Scientific insights into COVID-19:

1) Why has COVID-19 spread so rapidly?

- 2) Was the SARS-CoV2 virus created in a laboratory by scientists?
- 3) Why is staying at home so important?
- 4) Why is testing so important?
- 5) When will we have a vaccine?
- 6) What are the treatments for COVID-19?
- 7) Who is at risk for infection?
- 8) How can we prevent getting infected?
- 9) What is going to happen next?

To watch the series, click [here](#).



NEW PROGRAMS

Brother 2 Brother and the Black And Latino Male Teacher Preparation Program to Launch This Fall

I'm pleased to share that Capital will be launching the [Brother-2-Brother](#) mentoring program at Capital this fall. The program will be coordinated by [Randall Ward, CCC director of Student Activities](#). In addition to a college success coach/mentor, participants will enroll in a dedicated College Success IDS105 course for B2B participants. There will be a number of other activities tailored to support the academic success of participants along with community service and scholarship opportunities. **For more information, click [here](#).**

As a part of the B2B program, we have developed a special track for Black and Latino males interested in pursuing careers as K-12 teachers, the [Black and Latino Male Teacher Preparation Program \(BLMTPP\)](#). There are a number of young men of color who have been “ACTIVATED” by recent events in society. One of the most noble ways to give back and impact society is to become a teacher. We don’t have enough Black and Latino males teaching in our schools and research demonstrates the profound impact men of color have on K-12 student outcomes for all students. Despite Connecticut’s K-12 student population being 40% students of color, our state teacher corps is only 8% teachers of color and a fraction of this percent are males. This program will pair BLMTPP Scholars with successful teachers committed to seeing oncoming professionals like them be successful. It will also provide participants with guidance on how to transfer to four-year schools of education (without losing credits!), meet our rigorous state teacher licensure requirements, and provide scholarship support for males achieving prerequisite GPAs.

For more information, click [here](#).



NEW SCHOLARSHIP

Community Service Award In Memory of Tanya Cleveland-Wiggins Established

Tanya Nadine Cleveland-Wiggins, who died last September 19th at the age of 61, was

born and raised in Hartford and loved her community, dedicating herself to helping young people. Service to others on the job or by volunteering inspired others to do the same. Tanya was a nurturer by nature and a “mom” to many. *She was known for her big heart* – often putting together care packages for college-bound students, giving to those in need, and frequently checking in on members of her community. Tanya was only several courses shy of completing her associate's degree at Capital Community College before she passed away.

The family of Tanya Cleveland-Wiggins is establishing a memorial scholarship for CCC students that honors Tanya's volunteerism on the campus. The \$1,100 scholarship to be awarded for the 2020-2021 academic year will benefit a Hartford high school graduate who resides in Greater Hartford and is active in the local community who demonstrates financial need and is part-time.

For more information about the scholarship, click [here](#).



STUDENTS FIRST

Report Updates New England Commission For Higher Ed On Consolidation Plan

Under the direction of the Board of Regents (BOR), Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) leadership has been working with campuses to consolidate our colleges into a *more* sustainable and higher performing institution for our state and students. Our 12 campuses will be merged into the Connecticut State Community College (CSCC), with resources focused on student success, academic excellence and fiscal

sustainability. An update on progress was provided at the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) June meeting. **To read the full report, click [here](#).**



Capital Community College | 860-906-5000 | ca-webmaster@capitalcc.edu | www.capitalcc.edu

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