

# From the Desk of the CEO

Update from Capital CEO, Dr. G. Duncan Harris



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*Dear Friend,*

*With 2020 in the rear-view mirror, I am looking forward to the work ahead of us in 2021. There is much to be done to serve our students and the community. Unfortunately, the pandemic has interrupted too many dreams and changed too many plans. It continues to pose risks that require restrictions.*

*But over the last year of COVID we still managed to make strides on equity issues and enhanced student support. We obtained federal funds that will help transform the college over the next five years on retention and student success goals. Now it's time for the Capital team to support each other and help get those dreams and plans back on track.*

*Wishing everyone a healthy and productive spring semester.*

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Duncan Harris".

Duncan

## GRANTS

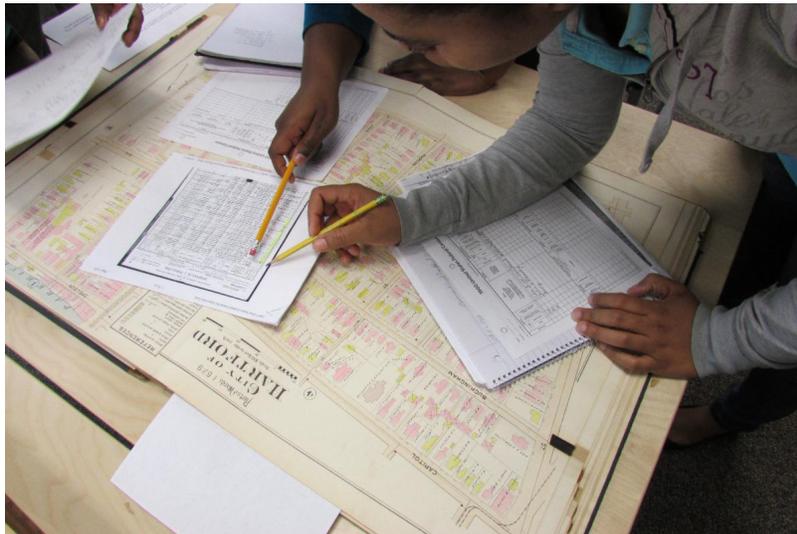
### Hartford Heritage

**NEH Award Funds Black Studies, New Exhibit About Historic Downtown Church**

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded a \$149,026 grant to

Capital Community College (CCC) to focus on the history and people of Hartford's historic Talcott Street Church and Black School. The Humanities Initiative award, part of Capital's Hartford Heritage Project (HHP), will support place-based learning in Black history for students at the college and Capital Preparatory Magnet School (Capital Prep) in partnership with nearby museums. It is one of 21 NEH Humanities Initiatives grants nationwide that will advance curricular innovations and enhance educational resources at colleges and universities.

Professor Jeffrey Partridge, Ph.D., Chair of Humanities and Director of the Hartford Heritage Project will lead the project which will develop 12 courses at Capital Community College and three subjects at Capital Prep. An exhibition is planned to support pedagogy and commemorate the historic site of the church. The grant will support the inauguration of an annual public lecture called *The Pennington Lecture*, named after Talcott Church pastor James W.C. Pennington and themed on understanding race issues through the lens of the humanities. **MORE**



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## **Hispanic Serving Five-Year Grant Paves Way For Bilingual Coaches, First-Year Experience (FYE) Enhancements**

Career Pathways coaches and more support for the First-Year Experience are a part of the five-year U.S. Department of Education grant that began on October 1. Capital Community College won the \$3 million, five-year federal grant in September to improve student achievement and increase retention and graduation rates of low-income students.

The Title V Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) program awarded funds for the College's Cultivating All-Inclusive Student Achievement (CASA) project that will enhance a guided career pathways curriculum, create contextualized learning and improve the first-year experience for Hispanic and low-income students enrolled in associate degree programs.

**MORE**



## EVENTS

### **Panel Discusses Building Trust In Communities of Color As Covid-19 Vaccine Rolls Out**

I was invited to join a panel of experts at a recent Connecticut Women, Children, Seniors Equity & Opportunity Commission (CWCSEO) forum addressing the COVID-19 vaccine and its safety. The discussion focused on building trust about vaccine safety in communities of color which have had higher rates of infection than other groups.

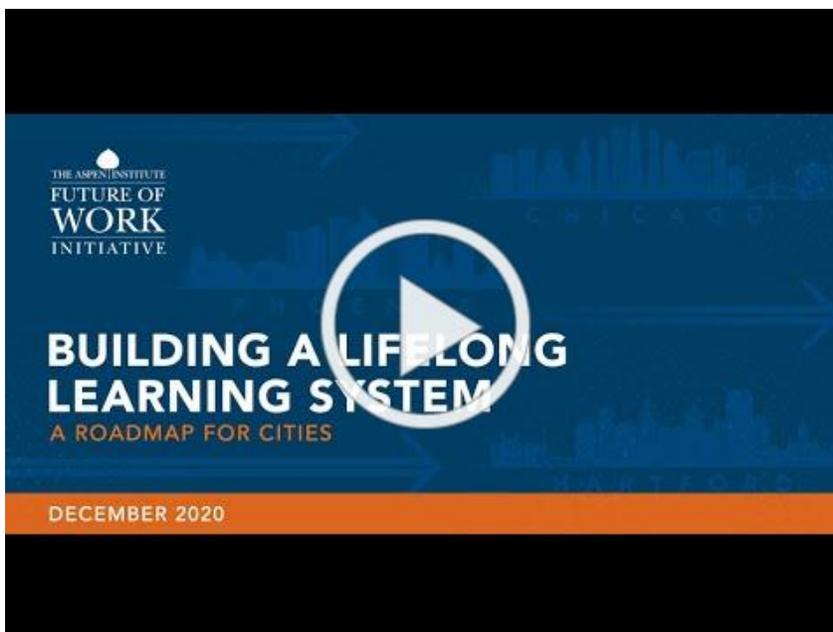
Other panelists included CT State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden; Dr. Deidre S. Gifford, Public Health Acting Commissioner & Social Services Commissioner; Dr. Tabitha B. Fortt, Family Medicine Specialist, Dr. Fred McKinney of Quinnipiac University and James Michel, CEO at Access Health CT.



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## Building Lifelong Learning In Cities Hartford and Capital CC Featured in Aspen Institute's Future of Work Initiative

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin and I participated in a December presentation of the Aspen Institute's Future of Work Initiative. As lifelong learning becomes increasingly important, it raises the question of how to build a system that supports education in cities such as Hartford.



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**SAVE THE DATE**

## Capital Golf Classic Is Back May 7th



The Capital Golf Classic may have been postponed in 2020 but not cancelled. **It's back on May 7th.** Join us for the Classic being held in accordance with public health protocols to ensure the safety of participants. We're raising funds for the Scholarship Fund and the Oasis Center for students with military service. Early Bird registration ends on April 1st at the Capital Golf Classic page.

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