

Vaughn

VAUGHN COLLEGE MAGAZINE WINTER 2015

A portrait of Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo, the seventh president of Vaughn College. She is a woman with shoulder-length blonde hair and bangs, smiling at the camera. She is wearing a black blazer over a white top, a pearl necklace, and a gold watch. Her hands are clasped in front of her on a wooden table. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting.

A NEW CHAPTER

SEVENTH PRESIDENT

DR. SHARON B. DEVIVO IS READY
FOR VAUGHN'S FUTURE



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A photograph of a computer lab at Vaughn College. Several students are seated at long wooden tables, working on desktop computers. In the foreground, a student with a beard and a baseball cap is seen from the back, looking at a computer screen displaying the Vaughn College website. Other students are visible in the background, some looking at their screens and others talking. The room has bookshelves filled with books in the background. The text "Vaughn's Campus Transformation Revealed this Fall" is overlaid in large white letters across the middle of the image.

Vaughn's Campus Transformation Revealed this Fall

After nearly three years of campus renovations, Vaughn College has been transformed both inside and out

Improvements have been made throughout the main building and can be seen in the classrooms, laboratories, library, and administrative areas, as well as from 23rd Avenue and the Grand Central Parkway with an impressive new façade.

"We are excited that the project has come to a close and this fall we are enjoying being in our newly renovated space," said President Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo. "It is particularly gratifying to be able to offer our students and faculty the benefits of the nearly \$40 million investment we've made to the campus including enhanced services for our students."

Soundproofing Grant Ignites Campuswide Renovation

What had begun as a soundproofing project evolved into a total campus transformation. Vaughn was the first college in history to receive an approximately \$32 million grant from The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to soundproof the roughly 110,000 square foot building.

According to DeVivo, “Being so close to LaGuardia Airport is a tremendous advantage for students in our aviation programs, but it came at a cost to our teaching and learning experience. With the soundproofing complete, classes can continue without interruptions as we reap the benefits of our ideal educational environment.”

Now, the main building has a new roof, windows and doors, as well as new

A NEW ADMINISTRATIVE “HUB” IN THE CENTER OF THE MAIN BUILDING WAS CREATED TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR STUDENTS IN ONE CENTRAL LOCATION.

air conditioning and ventilation systems. The windows have been double-glazed to reduce noise and vibration and a second hangar door has been installed to limit disruptions, all courtesy of the grant. The new, eye-catching glass entrance on 23rd Avenue provides direct access to the library, the flight simulator and air traffic control laboratories as well as the classrooms located at the west end of the building. This new entrance also houses all of the mechanical systems for the

renovated campus. The College’s residence hall, opened in 2007, was constructed using the latest sound abatement requirements and did not require renovation.

In addition to the new construction, Vaughn updated the administrative office spaces creating a new “hub” in the center of the main building that includes admissions, career services, financial aid, registrar, bursar and other administrative offices. The space provides most services for students in one central location.

Another significant investment by Vaughn College was a new faculty office area that for the first time includes offices for all faculty. A key aspect to providing students with a highly engaging educational experience is for faculty members to have space that gives them an opportunity to meet one-on-one with students as well as to do

their own thoughtful work.

“Academic work requires concentration,” said Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Paul LaVergne. “As part of the strategic plan’s goal of becoming an institution of choice for faculty, the College made sure to design the ideal space for preparing curricula as well as meeting with students.”

During the renovations, Vaughn also purchased additional engineering equipment to upgrade and create new laboratory experiences. All of the improvements have been done with an eye on fulfilling the goals of the College’s strategic plan, providing students with a culture of excellence that ensures a pathway to lifelong success. The evidence of that investment is in Vaughn’s placement rate with 92 percent of graduates employed or continuing their education within one year of graduation.



The New Library and Teaching/ Learning Center is Designed to Enhance Student Retention

One of the new favorite places for students to study and relax is the two-story library and teaching and learning center (TLC). Students use the new bright and comfortable setting for individual and collaborative studies, while having direct access to information technology services as well as the TLC. The TLC houses the student advisement center, academic support services, the writing center, the language lab and other state and federally funded support programs.

Librarian JoAnn Jayne notes, “Vaughn’s beautiful new library is truly a wonderful and functional space where students love to come to access resources, study or take a break. By offering classes in the library and having support services in one location we are able to provide an integrated experience for students to be successful in their coursework.”

As DeVivo notes, upgrading the library facilities was key to the College’s construction plans, again supporting Vaughn’s five-year strategic plan goals of providing academic excellence for its

students and academic support services to reinforce student learning and enhance student retention.

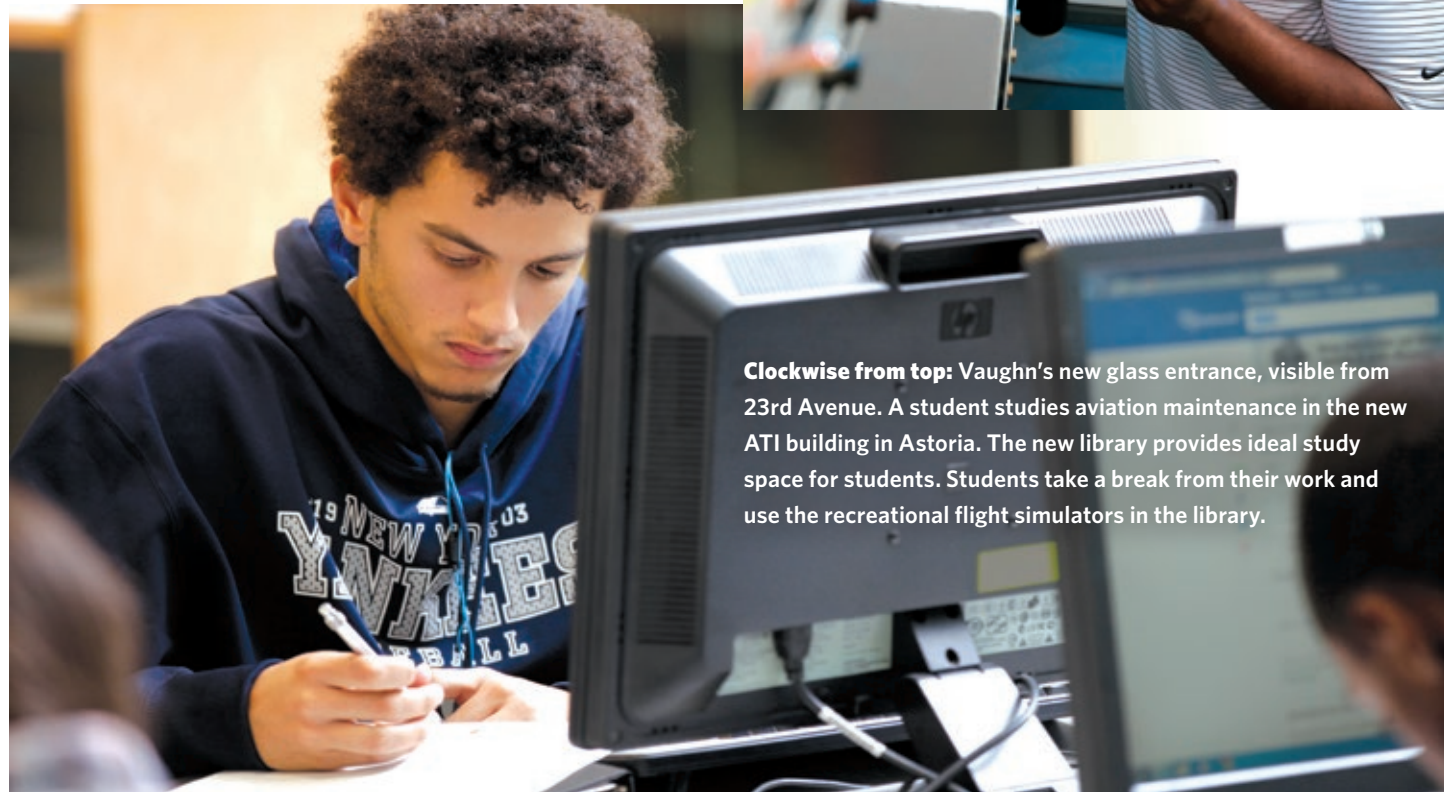
According to Vice President of Student Affairs and Academic Support Said Lamhaouar, “Integration of all support services is critical to promote student engagement that ultimately leads to enhanced student retention. With the new design, we take full advantage of space so faculty members can regularly connect with students to help them achieve their goals.”

Training Facilities also Upgraded

As a result of the recent increases in enrollment and the strategic plan requirement to obtain additional space, the College invested in a newly designed, Aviation Training Institute (ATI) facility in Astoria. This site was designed with the specific requirements of the program and continues to provide one of the largest aviation maintenance programs in the country with top-notch facilities. The first classes were held in Astoria in January 2014 and additional courses and laboratories are being moved in phases.



An integral part of the soundproofing project included installing a new roof, windows and second hangar door.



Clockwise from top: Vaughn's new glass entrance, visible from 23rd Avenue. A student studies aviation maintenance in the new ATI building in Astoria. The new library provides ideal study space for students. Students take a break from their work and use the recreational flight simulators in the library.

WE ARE VERY HAPPY WITH THE END RESULT. VAUGHN'S NEW LOOK, EXPANDED LOCATIONS AND ENHANCED PROGRAMS MAKE IT A GREAT PLACE TO SUCCEED.

"The opportunity now exists for ATI students to experience an enhanced learning environment in a building designed solely for aviation maintenance," said Vice President of Training Domenic Proscia. "The level of interaction between faculty and students has increased as a result of this new locale and equipment has been upgraded to reflect the program's needs. We work very hard to meet both Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and current industry standards, and feel very strongly that this new addition helps our students become better prepared to succeed in the aviation industry."

The 33,000 square-foot space, located 1.5 miles from the main campus, includes classrooms, laboratories, a lounge and faculty offices. Career services, academic support services, and student activities are also provided at the location and a shuttle bus operates between the two sites.

While the flight simulator lab with the Frasca and Redbird simulators has been a mainstay at the College for quite some time, Vaughn now has a next generation air traffic control laboratory (see story page 20).

New Degrees Will Take Advantage of Renovated Spaces

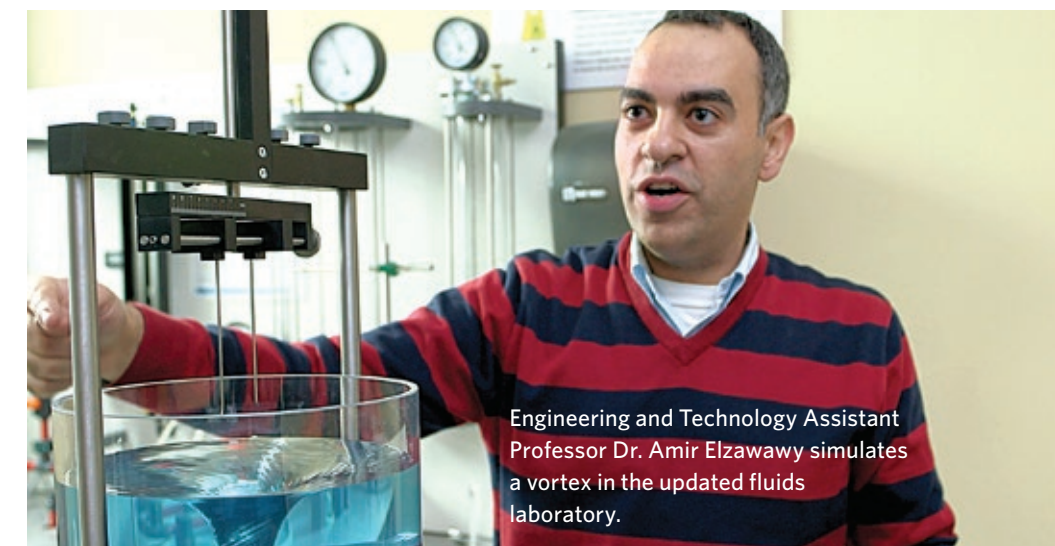
As Vaughn continues to grow and increase its offerings, new programs have been submitted to New York State for review. The College received approval in September to offer a bachelor of science program in aeronautical sciences that will be offered in the spring of 2014. This program is designed to provide students with a broad perspective in aviation, and foundation training in areas such as

flight dispatch, air traffic control, aviation safety and airfield operations. Students will also have the opportunity to transfer in existing flight credentials as part of this program. Graduates will have the option to pursue positions in airport management, dispatch, air traffic control and other related industries.

In addition, the institution has also submitted to New York State's Department of Education two new bachelor of science degrees in electronic engineering and mechanical engineering. The College

campus including a 35,000 square-foot addition in 1997 and the 45,000 square-foot residence hall in 2007.

The complexity of renovating a 1941 building required significant coordination between the architectural firms, John Ciardullo Associates and Graf & Lewent Architects; the construction companies, Stalco Construction and Cook & Krupa, and the institution. That effort was organized by Regina Gallagher Marengo at Ensign Engineering who acted as the owner's representative to ensure that the



Engineering and Technology Assistant Professor Dr. Amir Elzawawy simulates a vortex in the updated fluids laboratory.

has also updated the general education curriculum across all of the degree programs to offer more choices to students in the core liberal arts offerings. This core is derived from the mission of the College, and reflects what the institution believes is important and elemental to students' education and development.

A Campus for the Future

Vaughn was founded in 1932 and moved to its current location adjacent to LaGuardia Airport in 1941. Over the years, updates have been made to the

project stayed on track. The project was managed by Robert Waldmann, vice president of finance and business services at Vaughn, and he noted, "While the extensive renovation posed challenges for the entire Vaughn community, we are very happy with the end result—an enriched campus that we are rediscovering and using in ways that provide students and faculty with what they need. Vaughn's new look, expanded locations and enhanced programs make it a great place to succeed."

BELOVED **PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK** RETIRES, LEAVING VAUGHN AFTER 36 YEARS OF SERVICE

The sixth president of Vaughn College, Dr. John C. Fitzpatrick, retired this July after a long and distinguished career. During his 17-year tenure as president, he led the institution during a time of transformational change.

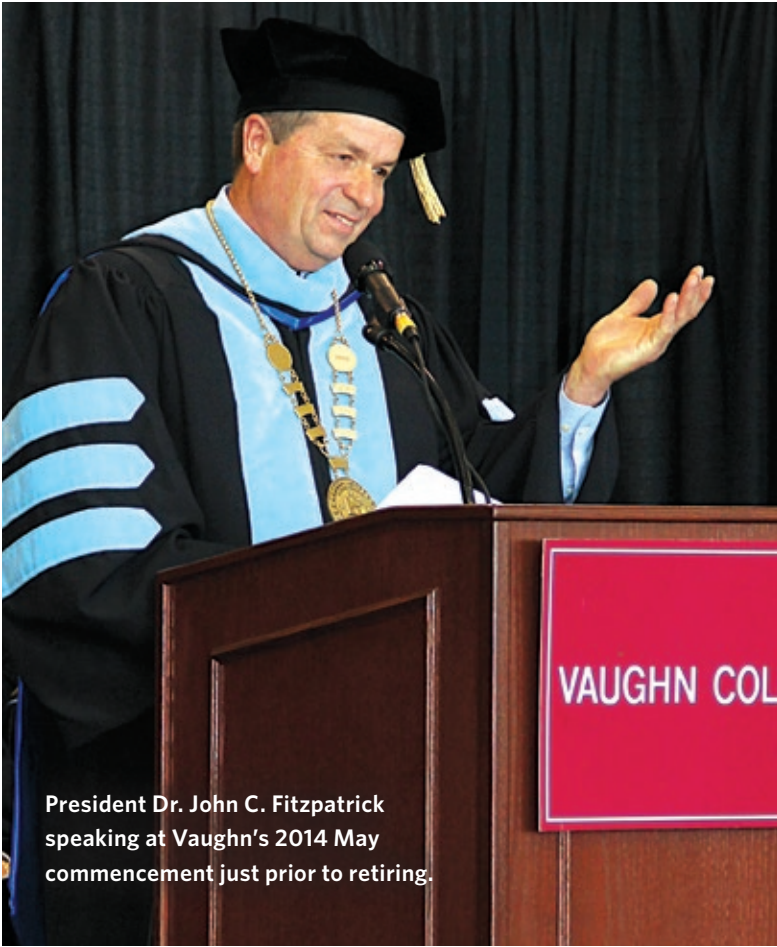
Chair of the Board of Trustees Thomas McKee commented on the indelible mark that Fitzpatrick left on Vaughn College. “For the past 17 years, and for that matter the last 36 years, Vaughn College has been fortunate to have the extraordinary talents of Dr. Fitzpatrick’s dedication and leadership at all levels of the institution. The transformation of Vaughn from primarily technical training to a growing academic institution has been the direct result of his vision and passion to serve Vaughn’s students and faculty.”

Among Fitzpatrick’s many notable accomplishments are the establishment of the College’s first engineering degree, the first master’s program, the first international program in India, and the construction of the institution’s first residence hall.

From the financial side, Fitzpatrick accomplished the successful implementation of the institution’s first-ever strategic plan that resulted in revenues increasing from \$10 million to more than \$33 million. At the same time, he decreased institutional dependence on tuition, launched the first development effort that raised more than \$4 million for the College, secured more than \$26 million for the renovation of Vaughn’s main campus building, and was awarded more than \$25 million in grant funding invested in laboratories, equipment and teaching pedagogy.

At the last commencement exercise that he presided over he noted, “Those who graduated during my first year here are now beginning to plan for their own retirement. It is amazing to reflect on all of the advances in technology that have taken place during those years and the part that has been played by the thousands of Vaughn graduates and the members of our community.”

Before becoming Vaughn’s sixth president, Fitzpatrick served in a variety of positions at the College, including vice president of academic affairs and dean of students. A native New Yorker and a veteran of the Vietnam War, he graduated with a



President Dr. John C. Fitzpatrick speaking at Vaughn's 2014 May commencement just prior to retiring.

bachelor’s degree from Dowling College, a master’s of business administration also from Dowling, and a doctorate in education from Hofstra University.

Fitzpatrick joined what was then known as the Academy of Aeronautics in 1978 as a faculty member in the aviation maintenance department. From there, he progressed through several increasingly responsible administrative positions and he was named president on February 10, 1997.

While Fitzpatrick was president, the institution saw a 65 percent increase in enrollment over the last five years as well as recognition five out of the last six years as one of the best colleges

Fitzpatrick in hangar with Aviation Training Institute Professor Joseph Zych; below, 2013 Sreenidhi Institute of Science and Technology graduate receives his degree from Fitzpatrick.

in the Northeast by US News and World Report. Vaughn achieved its highest ranking this year and has been consistently recognized as one of the most racially and economically diverse academic institutions in the nation.

He was very confident turning the reins over to Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo, who became the seventh president of Vaughn on July 1, and the first woman president in the College’s history. For nearly 20 years, the two have worked tirelessly together to realize their vision for Vaughn by garnering the resources necessary to make Vaughn the world-class academic college it is today.

“By far my greatest pleasure during my time as president has been to serve the students, faculty, administrators, staff, and board of trustees of Vaughn College,” Fitzpatrick said. “It is with a tremendous appreciation for all of the work that has been achieved together that I move on to the next phase of my life. I leave with a tremendous sense of pride and belief that we are an institution on the move, destined for greatness.”

Fitzpatrick joins fellow veteran students, faculty and staff at the April 2014 flag ceremony hosted by Vaughn's veterans club.



DR. SHARON B. DeVIVO TAKES THE HELM AS SEVENTH PRESIDENT OF VAUGHN COLLEGE



Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo has been appointed the seventh president of Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology. She is the first woman president in the College's 82-year history.

DeVivo most recently served the College as senior vice president and has been an integral part of Vaughn's development for more than 18 years.

She began her career as director of public relations at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University and then moved on to Fordham University where she served as public affairs manager. Her tenure at Vaughn College began as the director of communications. She was quickly tapped for advancement and took on the role of dean for college relations, followed by vice president of institutional advancement, vice president of academic and student affairs and finally senior vice president for the institution.

Unanimously chosen by the Board of Trustees, DeVivo assumed her role as President on Tuesday, July 1, 2014. The appointment followed an extensive national search that began

after past President Dr. John C. Fitzpatrick announced his desire to retire in 2014.

"The search committee spent countless hours over the past several months reviewing candidates and ensuring that the applicants met the criteria necessary to spearhead the institution and move Vaughn College forward," said Board of Trustees Chair Thomas J. McKee. "We know Dr. DeVivo fully understands the College's dynamics and has the vision and leadership skills necessary to achieve the community's collective goals."

During her time at Vaughn, DeVivo has been deeply committed to student success and creating a highly engaging educational experience both inside and outside the classroom. Her accomplishments include: increasing the six-year graduation rate for bachelor's degree students from the low 30s

to 57 percent over the past decade; raising more than \$50 million to create top-notch learning spaces with the latest equipment and implementing two strategic plans that invest in new programs, facilities and faculty.

"Dr. Fitzpatrick has served the last 17 years as president of this institution and brought us to this moment in our history where we have experienced a transformation that will ensure our long-term growth," said DeVivo. "I am thrilled to be selected as president and continue the dynamic transformation and growth of this institution. I will work with Vaughn's incredibly involved community to achieve the goals set forth in our strategic plan, highlight our students' successes and continue to enhance the College's reputation."

DeVivo earned an associate in arts degree from the University of Maryland, Munich, Germany and a bachelor of arts in communications from SUNY Albany. She went on to receive her master of arts in public communications from Fordham University and her doctor of education in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania.

Her professional and community affiliations are numerous and include participation on the Queens Borough President's Aviation Advisory Council, the JFK International Airport Chamber of Commerce, the American Council on Education Women's Network for New York State and The Wings Club, a professional aviation group. In 2013, she was honored as

one of the Top 35 Women of Queens by The Queens Courier and was awarded the Highest Leaf Award by the Women's Venture Fund.

DeVivo is excited that the College's recent transformations have succeeded in creating an outstanding environment for educational excellence. She is looking forward to working with the students and faculty in a dynamic atmosphere and furthering alliances and services to ensure the success of every student. As she takes the helm, her priorities for the college include increasing the academic programs offered at Vaughn, developing international partnerships and implementing its strategic plan. That plan calls for programs that are responsive to economic demands, facilities and services that are the best Vaughn can offer, and a faculty and staff who are committed to the success of every student.



▲ Dr. DeVivo with Vaughn's sixth President Dr. John C. Fitzpatrick at a commencement ceremony.



▲ Dr. DeVivo working with students in the residence hall lounge.

New Bachelor's Degree in Aeronautical Sciences

In September, Vaughn received approval from the New York State Education Department for **a new bachelor of science degree program in aeronautical sciences.**

The program is designed to offer students the ability to obtain a degree that provides a broad perspective in the aeronautical sciences field, and foundation training in areas such as flight dispatch, air traffic control, aviation safety and airfield operations. This degree was developed to provide students with the flexibility to incorporate flight qualifications they've obtained through Vaughn's associate or bachelor's aircraft operations degree programs if they choose to pursue a different career path. Both new students and transfers with flight experience will particularly benefit from the program's flexibility.

"This degree offers students an opportunity to combine several aviation areas in a single degree for career options in a variety of fields," said President Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo. "My thanks to the faculty for the development of this degree and their foresight in creating another pathway for graduate's success."

Managed by the aviation department under the leadership of the new chair, Dr. Pete Russo, students graduating from this program are expected to be able to obtain two or more Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certificates as a flight dispatcher and as a ground instructor for basic flight and instrument pilots.

Other career possibilities are available to students through a variety of electives and certificate programs including air traffic control, airport and airline management, avionics, and engineering technology. Students in this program can also pursue internships and research projects in order to further their academic and practical experiences.



▲ Student works with adviser Ruhullah Mehirdel '10 in new teaching and learning center.

"The goal of the new program is to prepare students for aviation careers with employers such as The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, John F. Kennedy International Airport, Marsh Aviation, Raytheon Corporation, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)," added Russo.

Vaughn's location, adjacent to world-

class LaGuardia Airport, and close to both larger and smaller airports, provides a learning environment unsurpassed in terms of activities, resources and personnel in aviation. The location combined with a small campus experience, interaction with faculty and availability of engaging services enables Vaughn graduates to be successful in their chosen careers.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES AT VAUGHN



◀ Flight simulator lab provides on-site training for Vaughn students.

ALUMNI

John Pavon '02

Studying mechanical engineering technology at Vaughn College put John Pavon on the path to success in his professional career.

Now serving as president of his own company, Pavon began his career in the 1980s at Grumman Aerospace Corporation in Bethpage, Long Island. He started as a machinist and climbed the career ladder to become a design engineer.

One of his projects included working on the EF-111, an all titanium swept wing aircraft. As a result of his work on this project, Pavon was awarded the Project Sterling Award from Grumman in 1984.

After leaving Grumman, he continued in the machine shop business and worked on metal injection molding, mostly for the medical and firearms industries. "By pursuing a degree at Vaughn College, I was truly able to enhance my previous skills and experience at Grumman in design. It also helped me to bring CATIA software to the College, software that I had used while at Grumman. I decided to major in the computerized

design program because aircraft design was my passion. Dr. Hossein Rahemi, professor and chair of the engineering and technology department, was my great inspiration while attending Vaughn College. He demanded accuracy and precision," says Pavon.

During the past 10 years, Pavon has focused on armor and advanced protection systems for the US military. In 2008, he coauthored and presented a paper at the International Symposium on Ballistics Conference in New Orleans on protecting vehicles against explosives.

In 2011, he received two patents from the United States Patent and Trademark Office for devices that protect vehicles from improvised explosive devices and landmines, and has other patents pending. At present, he is involved with companies throughout the US, including Ansys Incorporated in California.

"I'm most proud of the work I'm doing now to help save our soldiers from injuries and death from explosives. Protecting soldiers has been our primary goal since the early days of the Iraq war. We have certainly done our share in trying to achieve this," says Pavon.

Pavon was also an instructor at Vaughn College, teaching the CATIA V5 Prismatic Machining Workbench, in 2003. In his opinion, "When I taught at Vaughn, I felt like I was giving back to create the next generation of engineers. The advice that I give to all Vaughn College students is to never accept that you cannot achieve a goal, but instead devote your energy on how you can achieve that goal."

Reflecting on his time at the College, he noted: "When I attended Vaughn, I found the students to be very hard workers. The faculty is outstanding and encourages students to excel. I'm sure that the College's work ethic is what helped me succeed in my career."

Pavon is a member of the Association of the United States Army, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, the National Defense Industrial Association and is a Founding Member of the International Ballistics Society. Pavon has three sons, seven grandchildren, and lives in Flushing with his wife.



VAUGHN COLLEGE ANNUAL FUND

Honor Our Past, Build Our Future

Annual giving is a central part of Vaughn's fundraising efforts. Annual giving provides Vaughn with the responsiveness and flexibility necessary to fund emerging opportunities in scholarships, student programming, faculty research and academic initiatives. Each year, every gift, regardless of the amount, improves the Vaughn experience for our students.

**AT THE HEART OF VAUGHN
ARE THE MINDS
OF STUDENTS.**

Emmanuel Crespo
General Management, '10
Senior Analyst, Omnicom Group

GIVE TODAY @ vaughn.edu/give-a-gift.cfm

For more information contact Karon Williams, annual fund manager at
718.429.6600 extension 353 or karon.williams@vaughn.edu

Engineering and Engineering Technology Degrees Receive Accreditation

In late August, Vaughn received notification from the **Accrediting Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET)** that it had reaccredited all of the engineering technology programs and, for the first time, accredited the institution's first engineering degree.

Engineering and Technology Associate Professor Khalid Mouaouya '90 works with a student in one of the newly renovated engineering labs.



Vaughn College's mechatronic engineering bachelor of science degree has been accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET. ABET is the recognized accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology. ABET accreditation demonstrates a program's commitment to providing its students with a quality education.

This is a new accreditation for Vaughn College, one of only three colleges nationwide that offer an ABET-accredited mechatronics degree program. The accreditation extends retroactively from October 1, 2011 and includes all graduates of the program.

The Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC) of ABET also reviewed Vaughn's previously accredited associate and bachelor's engineering technology programs and reaccredited the following programs:

- Electronic Engineering Technology – Avionics, Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degree
- Aeronautical Engineering Technology (Pre-engineering), Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degree

“ABET accreditation provides students and their families with an assurance from a prestigious external reviewer of the value of a Vaughn College degree.”

Vaughn College is **one of only three colleges nationwide** that offer an ABET-accredited mechatronics degree program.

- Mechanical Engineering Technology – Aeronautical, Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree
- Mechanical Engineering Technology - Computer-Aided Design (CAD), Bachelor of Science (BS)
- Electronic Engineering Technology – Avionics, Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree
- Electronic Engineering Technology - General Electronics, Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree

“This recognition from ABET is a testament to the ongoing efforts of our faculty and staff to ensure that we provide a high quality education for our students. This accreditation action by ABET is an endorsement of those collective efforts,” said Vaughn College President Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo.

Accreditation is a voluntary, peer-review process that requires programs to undergo comprehensive, periodic evaluations. The evaluations, conducted by teams of volunteer professionals working in industry, government, academia and private practice within the ABET disciplines, focus on program curricula, faculty, facilities, institutional support, and other important areas.

“We are incredibly pleased to receive this important certification from ABET for our mechatronics engineering degree for the first time, as well as receiving reaccreditation for all of our engineering

technology programs,” said Dr. Hossein Rahemi, engineering and technology department chair. “This affirmation provides students and their families with an assurance from a prestigious external reviewer of the value of a Vaughn College degree.”

One of the key elements of ABET accreditation is the requirement that programs continuously improve the quality of education provided. To accomplish this, programs set specific, measurable goals for their students and graduates, assess their success at reaching those goals, and improve their programs based on the results of their assessment.

In addition to providing colleges and universities a structured mechanism to assess, evaluate, and improve their programs, accreditation also helps students and their parents choose quality college programs, enable employers and graduate schools to recruit graduates they know are well-prepared, and assists registration, licensure, and certification boards in screening applicants.

ABET is a not-for-profit organization, owned and operated by its more than 30 professional and technical member societies. An internationally respected organization with some 2,200 volunteers, ABET has set the higher-educational standards in its fields for more than 80 years.

STUDENT

Josiah D'Arrigo '16

D'Arrigo of Deer Park, New York learned about Vaughn College at his high school college fair. He had been undecided about what to pursue in college and was wavering between the fields of architecture and engineering. He visited a local college to find out more about their architecture program and decided what they offered was not for him. On the other hand, he still liked engineering but did not want to have to choose only one area to focus on such as electrical or mechanical. He started doing research and discovered mechatronic engineering—a field that combined all of the aspects of engineering that he enjoyed.

After further research, D'Arrigo learned about Vaughn College and its mechatronic degree program. “Vaughn offered exactly what I was looking for and the location was ideal,” said D'Arrigo. “I only applied to Vaughn because I knew it was the right choice for me.” After being accepted, he was offered a residential scholarship that allowed him to live on campus to be more engaged in the life of the College. He still lives close enough to go home on weekends to spend time with his family and friends, and maintain his job at Target where he's worked for a few years.

Now a junior at Vaughn, D'Arrigo is very happy at the College, knowing he made the right choice for his career. Last year, he became an active member of the



robotics club and now serves as its treasurer. He has had the good fortune to participate in many robotics competitions and has learned a great deal from his peers. “The programming that is done in the club is a great platform to apply everything you learn in classes to a real-life situation.”

Vaughn's career services department regularly looks for students who are available for industry internships and would benefit from experience in their chosen fields. In his freshman year, D'Arrigo was selected for a summer internship with Alken Industries, a precision aerospace manufacturer

In his freshman year, D'Arrigo was selected for a summer internship with **Alken Industries**, a precision aerospace manufacturer and defense contracting company.

and defense contracting company based in Ronkonkoma, Long Island. The company was founded in 1968 by engineer Kenneth Senior, who at the young age of 24, worked on the US government's Lunar Landing Module program that resulted in the landing of a man on the moon in 1969. Senior's methods, vision and passion led him to start Alken Industries at the age of 25 and his leadership and management skills brought Alken national recognition. D'Arrigo was also a recipient of the highly competitive Kenneth E. Senior Memorial Scholarship created by the Senior family in his honor after his passing.

During the summer of 2012 D'Arrigo worked one day a week at Alken in the area of quality control, checking parts for aircraft and helicopters. “It was a great experience for me and I was fortunate enough to meet the people who were responsible for making the

scholarship possible. They are truly a great group of people who are very passionate about the industry they serve.”

Due to his success in his first placement, D'Arrigo was invited back for a full-time paid internship this past summer. His job responsibilities increased and he was able to learn the ins and outs of the company with a particular focus on the business side of production, not something always prevalent in engineering classes. This summer's work entailed the computerization of contract review worksheets, mining government websites to find new government contracts to bid on, research of future prospective clients and platforms for the company's products. All the information culled was synthesized to develop a target list of the best possible future business customers for the company.

Reflecting on his time at Vaughn, D'Arrigo said, “There are about eight of us who began the mechatronic program at the same time and we all work together to help each other succeed.”

“I'm incredibly happy at Vaughn. The engineering classes are small, ranging from seven to 20 students. We get to know the professors well and they make time for their students.”

MECHATRONICS

NEW AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL LABORATORY EQUIPMENT PROVIDES REAL-WORLD SIMULATION



Students attend a training session in Vaughn's new air traffic control simulator laboratory.

Vaughn College has invested in a new state-of-the-art radar and tower training laboratory to enhance the current academic offerings in the field of air traffic control.

The new lab is used in conjunction with several air traffic control courses to prepare individuals before training at the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Academy as well as recurrent training for controllers in the region.

To increase opportunities for students, Vaughn has developed additional laboratory offerings and certificates that will make the program even more attractive. According to Domenic Proscia, vice president of training, "We have one of the best air traffic training facilities in the country, and with training being offered by retired air traffic controllers, we are priming our students for success as controllers."

The four new areas of focus are control tower procedures and simulations, terminal radar procedures and simulations, enroute procedures and simulations and non-radar procedures

and simulations. "Our labs give real-life approach and tower and center environment training, to prepare our students for what they will encounter in theory and in practice at the FAA training facility in Oklahoma," added Proscia.

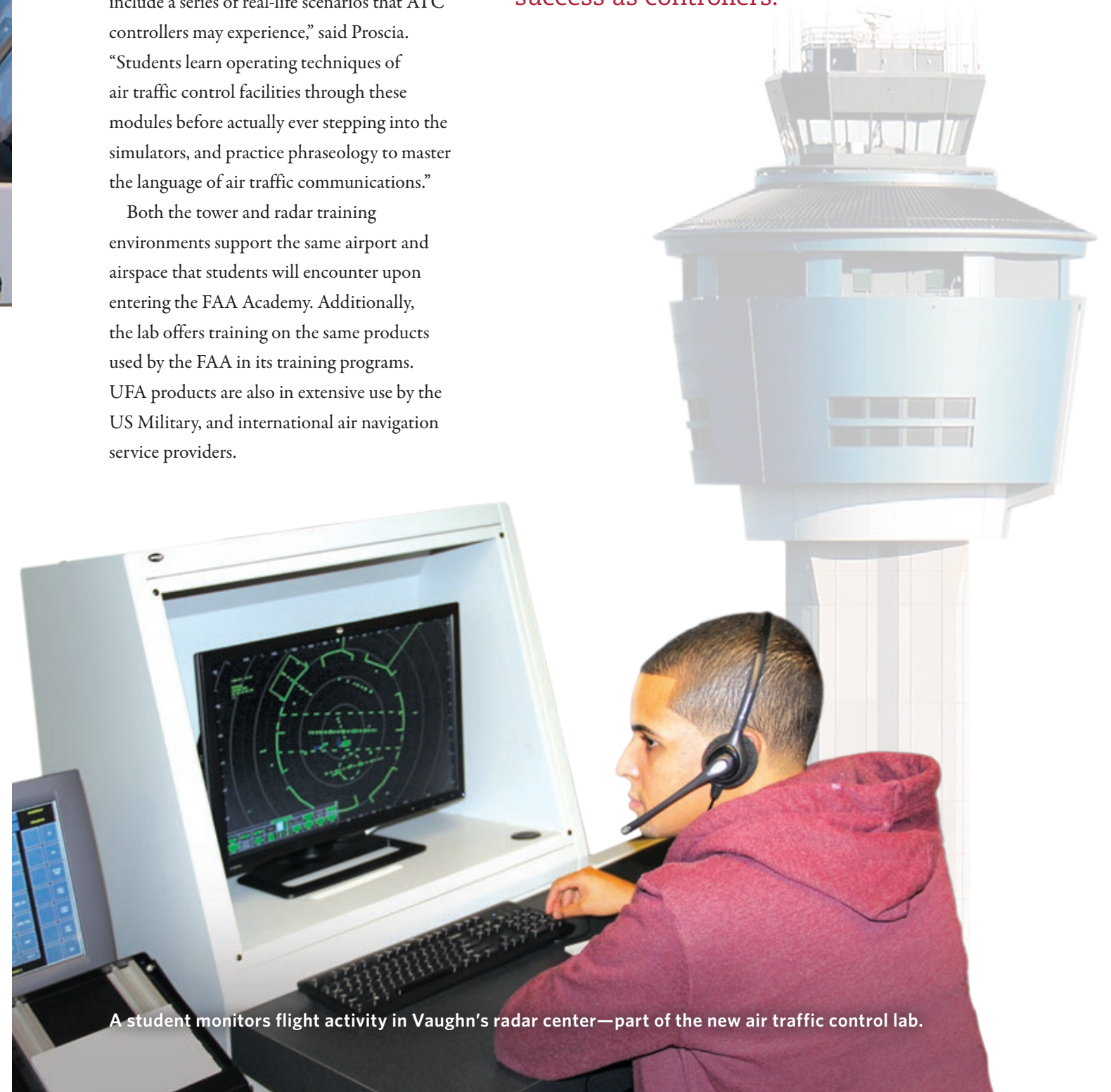
Vaughn identified UFA, Inc., a leading provider of air traffic control simulation and voice technologies, to provide the tower and coach products for the lab. With a five-channel, high definition, LCD based tower training simulator, Vaughn students currently experience an airport environment with aircraft, ground vehicles, wildlife and simulated weather conditions. For enroute and approach radar training, Vaughn uses a 5-position coach radar simulator. A user-friendly exercise creation environment allows Vaughn staff to create and manage their simulation courseware.

The lab also employs the UFA's industry-leading robust voice recognition and response technology for voice-automated simulation, allowing greater access to training assets and enforcing proper voice communications.

"The curriculum has been developed to include a series of real-life scenarios that ATC controllers may experience," said Proscia. "Students learn operating techniques of air traffic control facilities through these modules before actually ever stepping into the simulators, and practice phraseology to master the language of air traffic communications."

Both the tower and radar training environments support the same airport and airspace that students will encounter upon entering the FAA Academy. Additionally, the lab offers training on the same products used by the FAA in its training programs. UFA products are also in extensive use by the US Military, and international air navigation service providers.

"We have one of the best air traffic training facilities in the country, and with training being offered by retired air traffic controllers, we are priming our students for success as controllers."



A student monitors flight activity in Vaughn's radar center—part of the new air traffic control lab.

FACULTY

Margaret Ducharme, PhD

A native of Ontario, Canada, where she earned her PhD, Margaret Ducharme taught at a number of institutions in Canada and the US before being hired to the faculty at Vaughn in the spring 2014, following a recommendation by a colleague.

Dr. Margaret Ducharme teaches literature and composition courses at Vaughn College and has published research in the fields of writing, drama, addiction, women's issues, literature and religion.

"I've also had a lifelong interest in politics," she says with a smile. "I've worked on women's issues in several national and provincial political campaigns in Canada." When she is not in the classroom, Ducharme maintains an active presence in politics, focusing her attention and efforts on women's issues, and campaigns that promote positive changes in women's rights.

According to Dr. Ray Addabbo, arts and sciences department chair, "There was no doubt that Margaret would be a welcome addition to the College when during her interview, she was able to hold a crowded room's attention while convincing everyone that by reading Henry James one could become a better pilot. She makes literature relevant to our students and an integral part of their education."

As an instructor, Ducharme encourages participation and active discussion in her classroom; something she says her students embrace with vigor.

"There are classes where, as an instructor, you can see how animated the students are by the subject," Ducharme said. "I practically disappear in the largeness of their discussion. The writing that follows these classes is often the most confident and clear, and I hear their individual voices, sometimes for the first time."

Having taught at many institutions, Ducharme says Vaughn students stand out for her because "Unlike students I have had at other colleges and universities, Vaughn students do not seek the approval of the instructor as much as they seek the answers to their searching questions."



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ALUMNI

Brad Carpenter '04

Brad Carpenter's aviation career started as soon as he graduated high school, enlisting in the US Air Force.



He spent the first four years of his professional life as a forecaster in the Air Force providing weather reports for pilots; a job he maintained after leaving the military.

"I'd moved back home and worked in the weather offices at LaGuardia and MacArthur airports," says Carpenter. "I used my GI bill benefits to enroll at Vaughn College."

With the goal of becoming an air traffic controller in mind, Carpenter began his associate degree in airport management and took the air traffic control module. He credits Vaughn's faculty with giving him the encouragement he needed to keep moving forward in his academic endeavors. The combination of interesting classes and invaluable experiences outside the classroom made his Vaughn experience truly memorable.

After graduating in December 2004, Carpenter went back to work at LaGuardia and MacArthur, until he was recruited by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), to be trained as an air traffic controller at their academy in Oklahoma City. Post-graduation, Carpenter began working in the tower at Caldwell airport in New Jersey with other Vaughn alumni.

"Caldwell was a great place to start my career, but after a few years, I was ready for a bigger challenge," he said. "So I transferred to the tower at John F. Kennedy Airport in May 2012, where I also work with a number of Vaughn alumni."

After almost 10 years, Carpenter has remained in touch with Vaughn alumni, participating in College events including dinners in Manhattan, trips to Mets games at Citi Field, and, most recently, an alumni trip to India, where he proposed to his girlfriend, Maria Ortiz.

"Maria had made it clear that visiting India was number one on her bucket list," he says. "So when I got the postcard announcement from Vaughn, I knew we had to go. I started thinking that India would be a great place to propose, maybe in front of the Taj Mahal. How many people can say they did that?"

Carpenter also remains active within the College's academic community, speaking on campus to current students about his career and experiences.



Vaughn in the Media

WALL STREET JOURNAL ▶

The College’s relationship with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) was featured in a story written for the Wall Street Journal on July 28, in which Ryan Barren ’15 gave reporter Ralph Gardner Jr. a demonstration of Vaughn’s flight simulators.

PBS NOVA

Part of Vaughn’s campus, as well as Vaughn adjunct professor the Honorable John Goglia, were featured in the October 8 episode of PBS’ NOVA, entitled “How Does an Aircraft Vanish Without a Trace?” hosted by CNN’s Miles O’Brien. The program discussed the possible explanations for the disappearance of Malaysia flight MH370.



NY1 NEWS

Three members of the Vaughn College community were featured in a spotlight story on Time Warner Cable’s NY1 News on Wednesday, June 18. The story highlighted colleges in Queens that have an established relationship with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ), and the beneficial impact this relationship has on students. Vaughn students Ryan Barren ’15, and Yichuan Luo ’17, were featured.



THE QUEENS CHRONICLE ▶

Vaughn College was featured in an article from the Queens Chronicle on Thursday, July 3. The article focused on the College’s relationship with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ), and how this relationship builds on students’ college experience through internship and job opportunities. Vaughn students James Converso ’16 and Yichuan Luo ’17 were featured in the article.



WHITE COLLAR

Scenes for the finale episode of the USA Network drama “White Collar” were filmed on campus this summer. The crew utilized the hangar and a classroom to film scenes with cast members Tim DeKay and Matt Bomer, who met with students, faculty and staff members between scenes. The episode aired on December 11, 2014

AMERICAN SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE ▶

Vaughn College’s new Aviation Training Institute facility in Astoria was highlighted in American School and University Magazine’s August 2014 issue and was praised for its “outstanding design.”



AVIONICS NEWS

Vaughn was featured as a member profile in the August 2014 issue of Avionics News. The profile highlighted Vaughn’s academic programs, and stressed the importance of hands-on learning, specifically in the labs.

VISIT VAUGHN’S FACEBOOK PAGE TO SEE MORE:

facebook.com/VaughnCollegeFB

Community Corner

ASCE HOLDS 17TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT VAUGHN ▶

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Metropolitan Section’s Air Transportation Group held their 17th annual conference at Vaughn College on Wednesday, April 9. More than 150 aviation and engineering professionals were in attendance, presenting research and ideas for new developments in their respective industries. Five Vaughn students, Patrick Batey ’17, Stephanie Correa ’15, Cory Clark ’15, Daniel Dukin ’16 and Sunny Poon ’17 attended the event on ASCE conference scholarships and were accompanied by Professor Ted Kleiner.



◀ PORT AUTHORITY ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Vaughn College played host to The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey’s (PANYNJ) second community roundtable discussion on Wednesday, June 18. The discussion was an opportunity for The Port Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to address concerns from community residents regarding the planning process for addressing noise abatement in residential areas.

VAUGHN WARRIORS ELITE BASKETBALL CAMP

For the second consecutive summer, the Vaughn College department of athletics held two basketball camp sessions, drawing in student athletes from middle school through college-age participants. Each session consisted of a weeklong season, allowing the student athletes to build upon the fundamentals they learned in previous programs, culminating in finals matches and a championship game. More than a competition, the camp served as a team-builder and an opportunity for the students to develop their athletic skills.



GIRLS’ STEM DAY

On Tuesday, May 20, Vaughn hosted its first “Step Into STEM” workshop for middle school and high school-aged girls. The day consisted of a luncheon, where the students met with Vaughn alumnae currently working in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) fields, and participated in a series of workshops that gave them a hands-on introduction to biology, robotics and aviation.

JFK BEACH CLEANUP ▶

Vaughn students participated in a JFK beach cleanup on November 4. Fifty-five volunteers representing companies, schools and organizations joined forces to collect 74 bags of foreign object debris. The JFK beach cleanup was started in 2005.

Upcoming Events

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS REUNION

Thursday, February 19, 6 p.m. The aviation department invites all air traffic controllers to a special cocktail reception. Come reconnect with former faculty members and classmates and take a tour of the newly renovated campus.

ASTORIA FOOD TOUR

Saturday, March 28, 12 p.m. Come experience the vibrant food scene of Astoria, New York as we sample Asian, Greek, Italian and Middles Eastern specialties.

FAMILY, FRIENDS AND ALUMNI FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 25, 11 a.m. Vaughn College invites alumni, friends, students and their families to a festive day of food, music, entertainment and rides in our state-of-the-art flight simulators.

40TH, 50TH AND 60TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

LUNCHEON: CLASSES 1955, 1965 AND 1975

Wednesday, May 13, 1:30 p.m. To commemorate the 40th, 50th and 60th years since graduation, Vaughn College will host a special reunion luncheon for the classes of 1955, 1965 and 1975.

GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Friday, May 15, 6 p.m. President Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo invites seniors and alumni to attend a special graduation dinner to honor the accomplishments of the graduating class of 2015.

New Faces, New Places

The faculty and staff who were promoted or joined Vaughn College recently:

FACULTY

Thomas Broschart

professor, quality assurance special projects from professor, aviation training institute

Margaret Ducharme

assistant professor, arts and sciences

Paul LaVergne

vice president, academic affairs from dean, academic affairs

Lara Merlin

assistant professor, arts and sciences

Domenic Proscia

vice president of training from associate vice president, aviation training institute and acting aviation department chair

Pete Russo

assistant professor and aviation department chair from adjunct professor, aviation

STAFF

Ashley Alibrandi

administrative assistant, academic support

Sushail Capera

customer care representative, bursar’s office

Ida Chan

assistant director, VA certifying officer from student accounts assistant/collection coordinator

Min Chang

senior financial aid counselor/refund coordinator from financial aid counselor

Michael Daly

associate vice president, facilities and college services

Vanelle Elizee

administrative assistant, student affairs

Marcia Gomez

bursar from associate director, student accounts

William Hernandez

acting activities coordinator/advisor, academic support services

Dinelly Holder

director, office of counseling and wellness

Maria Patricia Jimenez

counselor, financial aid

Natalie Lamarche

associate registrar from senior assistant director of the registrar’s office

Said Lamhaouar

vice president, student affairs and academic support from associate vice president, academic support

Alejandro Lopez

assistant director of admissions from senior financial aid counselor/computer maintenance

Juan Martinez

assistant bursar/collections coordinator from assistant director, student accounts

Dorothy Martin

assistant vice president of enrollment, financial aid from executive director, financial services

Devore McIntosh

assistant director of student activities

Topacio Moreno

tap certifying officer

Steven Porcelli

residence hall director

Tipton Russell

assistant director of institutional effectiveness and grants, planning and assessment

Debbie Sypeck

assistant registrar from office manager, assistant to the registrar

Karon Campbell Williams

annual fund manager, institutional advancement

Ashley Wright

assistant director/technical support from financial aid counselor

Omari Wright

athletics coordinator

▶ ALUMNI EVENTS

INDIA TOUR JUNE 3-14, 2014



▲ Vaughn College's alumni association organized its first international event with a tour of the majestic land of India. The group of 10 made a stop in Hyderabad to attend a cocktail reception with partner institution and fellow alumni from Sreenidhi Institute of Science and Technology before making their way to Northern India to see the Taj Mahal and other exotic sites.

▼ For the third straight year, the alumni association continued its annual trip to Bear Mountain to take part in Oktoberfest. Despite a rain-filled day, alumni and friends were still able to enjoy the scenic three-hour cruise along the Hudson and the festivities.

BEAR MOUNTAIN OKTOBERFEST OCTOBER 4, 2014



▼ Vaughn's alumni association organized a cocktail reception for graduates residing in the South Florida area for the second year. The event, held at the scenic Grove Isle Hotel and Spa in Miami, Florida, was well attended by alumni from last year with a number of new faces joining the crowd. Graduates had the opportunity to connect with their alma mater and enjoy a social networking opportunity.

SOUTH FLORIDA RECEPTION OCTOBER 10, 2014



METS VS. NATIONALS SEPTEMBER 13, 2014



▲ Graduates from various years came out to cheer the Mets as they took on the Washington Nationals. In addition to enjoying a competitive game, alumni were able to reconnect with each other about their years at Vaughn.

For more information contact Neil Gouveia, director of alumni affairs at 718.429.6600 extension 112 or neil.gouveia@vaughn.edu



The hangar is transformed for the inaugural gala.

VAUGHN TRANSFORMED Gala RAISES \$100,000

The Vaughn Transformed Gala, the first in the College's history, took place on Thursday, November 6 and raised \$100,000 for scholarships and institutional priorities. The institutional event celebrated the completion of a nearly \$40 million renovation of the campus and the retirement of the College's sixth president, Dr. John C. Fitzpatrick.

"The Gala was incredibly successful and the funds raised will help us achieve our mission of assisting our students, many of whom are first-generation Americans and first-generation college students, attain their dream of obtaining a college education," said President Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo.



▲ Board member Peter Vaughn poses next to a photo of his grandfather, George A. Vaughn Jr., one of the College's founders; guests at gold sponsor Delta Airlines' table.



▲ President Sharon B. DeVivo poses with board of trustees Chair Thomas McKee and wife Trisha McKee; George A. Vaughn, Jane Love and James Vaughn, children of founder George A. Vaughn Jr., attend gala.

◀ Vaughn student ambassadors at gala.

Save the date and join us for Vaughn's next Gala on November 5, 2015.

Thank You

DR. JOHN C. FITZPATRICK



For 36 years of service to Vaughn College including your 17-year tenure as president. The Vaughn community celebrates, and continues to benefit from all of your accomplishments, and wishes you every happiness in your retirement. You will be deeply missed.