

A dedicated community of faculty and staff commit to enabling CHC students to reach for the stars and achieve their dreams.

REACHING HIGHER - ACHIEVING MORE

By Brenda Lange

Among other elements, the mission of Chestnut Hill College promises to provide students with a holistic education marked by academic excellence. In order to do that, much behind-the-scenes work is accomplished by a team of dedicated faculty and staff. Creating the environment so conducive to the success of these young women and men — to educating and graduating individuals who go into the world and make it a better place — requires an ongoing process of reflection and innovation.

In this article, we look at several ways in which CHC enables its students to reach higher and achieve more through new programs that have been established in response to demand and changes in the world and workplace outside its gates.

Cybersecurity degree responds to a growing demand

Philadelphia is one of the largest cities in the country and home to nearly 50 colleges and universities, and yet only a small handful offer an undergraduate cybersecurity degree, and none quite like the one about to launch at CHC.

Thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Chestnut Hill College is now designing its Cyber Sentinels Program, which will offer students training in today's technology laden environment through interactions with experts in the field and use of actual hardware and software at use in the workplace.

The \$235,980 three-year capacity building grant from the NSF and its CyberCorps Scholarship for Service program will allow CHC to partner with cybersecurity experts from industry and government agencies to develop and implement the new curriculum, beginning in the fall 2018 semester.

“The opportunity to engage field professionals throughout the development of the program helps provide a rich, well-grounded program that will prepare students to face the challenges they will meet

as they begin a career in cybersecurity,” says Lisa Olivieri, SSJ, Ph.D., associate professor of Computer Science & Technology and chair, Computer Science & Information Technology Department.

Sister Olivieri and Pamela King, principal investigator and instructor in digital forensics, co-wrote the grant proposal.

“We are fortunate to have been granted funding from NSF,” says King. “The Cyber Sentinel Program at CHC will be a wonderful opportunity for students to begin careers in a cutting-edge field with high job growth and good salary potential.”

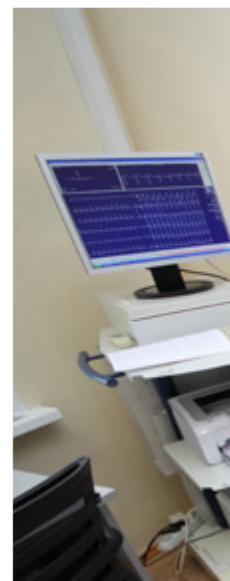
The grant opportunity had been considered for several years, following the successful implementation of the digital forensics program in 2012. With the growth of that program, King believes now is the perfect time to start the cybersecurity program.

By the end of the third year, the plan is to have a fully formed program meeting the criteria of the NSA and Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

“This would allow us to receive national recognition from the Center of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity Education, part of the DHS,” she says.

Last year, CHC was awarded school charter status by the International High Technology Crime Investigation Association (HTCIA) through the Delaware Valley HTCIA and is one of only 14 colleges or universities in the world to have earned such a distinction. This partnership allowed the College to begin an annual cybersecurity and digital forensics conference, at which students meet professionals and learn from their presentations. Through the arrangement, students also may take free webinars, receive discounted tickets to the HTCIA international conference and attend chapter meetings.

“Through this charter, our students have gotten internships and worked with mentors,” says King. “We look forward to a continuing productive relationship with them.”





Today's students must be ready to meet the demands of increasing technology and threats to it — CHC's cybersecurity programs ensure they are.

a model for other institutions. The grant will help many departments here at the College and encourage the study of world languages. The support of the U.S. Department of Education brings great honor to the College and adds validity to our enterprise.”

Students in French, Spanish, German, and Italian will have the opportunity to strengthen their language skills by using them in non-language courses in other disciplines, where they can complete some assignments in their

target language instead of English. This is known as Culture and Language across the Curriculum, and is also funded through the grant.

CHC will collaborate with partner universities within the European Union to integrate the new curriculum. At least seven European partners — Aarhus in Denmark, Howest in Belgium, American Business School and Sorbonne in France, Liverpool Hope in Britain, Salamanca and Alicante in Spain, and Czech University of Life Sciences — will participate in enhancing the knowledge and expertise of students and faculty by hosting lectures and providing study abroad opportunities.

The program's goal is also to further develop students' cultural awareness and their ability to interact within the global community.

Wellness as a career

Exercise science is a new major within the Department of Physical Education. According to Carolyn Albright, Ph.D., associate professor of physical education and chair of the department, this major is designed to help students with a love of fitness, health and/or sports performance find their career path.

“This new major is a great opportunity for those who want to pursue a career in the fitness industry, corporate wellness, strength and conditioning for sport or even use this as a pathway to a professional program in areas such as physical therapy, athletic training, occupational therapy or cardiac rehabilitation,” says Albright.

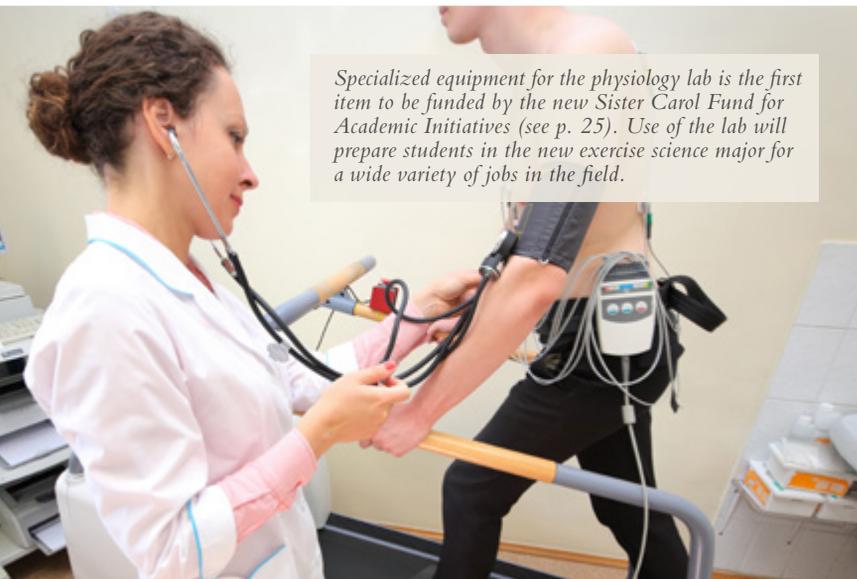
Specialized equipment has been purchased for an exercise physiology lab, which will be used for most of the classes in the curriculum. The exercise physiology course, which just started, provides junior and senior level students a separate laboratory experience that utilizes all the equipment.

“We have a treadmill that allows for stress testing

The world comes to CHC

An interdisciplinary minor in European Union and European Studies is being developed at CHC, thanks to a two-year grant from the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages Program (UISFL), which funds projects that implement and improve undergraduate instruction in international studies and foreign language.

During the two-year project period, CHC will launch the minor, a pilot Language across the Curriculum



Specialized equipment for the physiology lab is the first item to be funded by the new Sister Carol Fund for Academic Initiatives (see p. 25). Use of the lab will prepare students in the new exercise science major for a wide variety of jobs in the field.

(LAC) model, distance education technologies, professional faculty development and EU-related seminars. The project is led by Mary Helen Kashuba, SSJ, D.M.L., professor of French and Russian and chair of the foreign language and literature department.

“European Union and European Studies is a relatively new field of study that makes us unique in this region,” says Sister Mary Helen. “We hope to provide



Poster created by students who worked with the Office of Student Life through the It's On Us Program.

“None of us are bystanders. If we are all part of the solution, there won't be a problem.”

— Krista Murphy, Ph.D.

Creating safe spaces

For many students, Move-In Day in late August marks the beginning of the first time they will spend any considerable amount of time away from home. Even non-resident students need to learn to become comfortable in their new surroundings. As they navigate this new environment, they are exposed to a community that values mutual respect, treats all members as dear neighbors and that takes a stand against discrimination and sexual violence.

To that end, CHC applied for and received a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education It's On Us Program. Pennsylvania was the first state to join the national It's On Us program that grew out of work being done by the Obama Administration toward ending sexual violence. The premise was that no one can be a bystander; we all are part of the solution to sexual violence. Governor Tom Wolf's office put out a call for grant proposals in 2016 and CHC was awarded nearly \$30,000.

The award allowed the College to establish its own project to further educate students about sexual assault, empower them to challenge a culture that may demean women, discriminate against members of the LGBTQ community and prohibits victims from reporting abuse and/or being taken seriously.

“As an institution, we have a deep commitment to preventing sexual violence,” says Krista Murphy, Ph.D., dean of student life. “This grant will provide the financial support needed for students to be the voice of the issue and help spread the word. It's one thing for me or another staff person to say to students, ‘We're all part of the solution,’ but it's something entirely different when students take that message and translate it into their own language and disseminate it to other students.”

To that end, the Office of Student Life hired 14 students from varying backgrounds and areas of interest, through the grant. Four students were interns and ten worked on special projects. The groups focused on creating videos, social media posts, a print campaign, a website and events.

The grant lasted through June 30, and students created two videos, sponsored an It's On Us Week of Action, a Step-Up Bystander Intervention Training, a workshop on dating violence (that uses a video called Escalation from the One Love Foundation) and a Title IX K walk. They also created a logo, revamped the website (www.chc.edu/titleix) and printed new educational materials.

The program was expanded to include messages about

and performance testing and a special bike for exercise testing,” explains Albright. “Smaller items for health and fitness testing such as blood pressure cuffs, oxygen saturation analyzer, skeletal models and instruments to measure body composition are also in use.”

The equipment is a critical component of this course and by extension the major. It's in the lab that students get to see the physiology they have learned about in lecture. Most importantly, all the equipment is the type that any of the students in this major might use on their jobs.

“Upon graduating, our students will be prepared to sit for the American College of Sports Medicine Personal Training Certification and Exercise Physiologist Certification as well as the National Strength and Conditioning Certification exam to be a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, meaning they need to be ready to immediately graduate and go to work in clinical fields using any of this equipment,” says Albright.

Those students who continue on to graduate school will enter programs where it is assumed that students already have hands-on experience and are proficient with most of this equipment, she adds.

In the future, Albright hopes to put programs in place in which she will engage and teach high school (and perhaps also middle school) students about human physiology and how the body changes with exercise, how that is related to their health or their performance in sports, and ultimately, lead to a job that might interest them.

Conversations around alternative funding sources to help provide this crucial equipment are currently underway.

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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In 2015, Bethel was inducted into the College's Libris Society, which honors alumni who live life by the school's motto: Faith-Charity-Knowledge. The designation is the last line in his professional biography. "It's a motto that I take great pride in trying to exemplify every day of my life," he says. "I will never forget Kevin Bethel as an officer and student," says Sara Ellen Kitchen, J.D., professor of criminal justice. "He brought his high standards and professionalism to the classroom initially and now returns annually as a guest lecturer. His understanding

of restorative justice is key for the field of criminal justice." And in 2016, Bethel took another step toward positively impacting young people when he became a fellow with the Stoneleigh Foundation, which seeks to improve the lives of vulnerable children and youth. His fellowship ends in January 2018, and can be renewed. Regardless, working with young people will be his focus.

"My heart is in juvenile justice. Now is the time to destroy the school-to-prison pipeline. A second chance, not an arrest, is what they need," he says. "Do we have the courage to give it to them?" 

Diversity and Inclusion: A History

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Mosley. "It's not economics as some say, it's race."

The issue comes in waves. She compares today's campus unrest with that of the 1960s and says that remembering that history is crucial to the work of diversity and inclusion officers.

"We know the wave is going to happen again, so let's put these positions into place now and do this work in an intentional and meaningful way, so we're not just being reactionary to incidents."

Diversity and inclusion philosophy means that everyone is included. And the work of D&I professionals is to ensure that people truly understand that it IS about everybody. "We've gotten away from a label that implies one particular group, but if all you see is people of color in the room when we have programs and conversations, then the assumption will be that it's only about them," says Mosley.

"I intend to be creative and get everyone into the room and then to get them to understand that it truly is about everyone in the room." 



CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE

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	Yes	Not at this time
I would like more information on how to establish a scholarship fund.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would like more information on how to support Chestnut Hill College after my lifetime.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have included a gift to the College in my will or other estate plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would consider including a gift to the College in my will or other estate plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Reaching Higher - Achieving More

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other issues, and Murphy adds, CHC has always been proactive in wellness education.

For example, work done by the Office of Students Activities with the One Love Foundation spreads the message about domestic violence and the Step-Up Bystander Intervention Training Program that all students undergo initially came from a NCAA grant that the College has continued even after the grant funding ended.

"We've been doing this type of work organically on campus," she says. "And CHC will continue to do this."

In all these programs, the central message is that we're all in this together.

"None of us are bystanders," adds Murphy. "If we are all part of the solution, there won't be a problem." 