



Herkimer  
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

# Connections

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends of Herkimer County Community College 2026



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- HCCC Celebrating 60 Years
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- Celebrating Herkimer Lacrosse

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*Connections* is an annual publication of Herkimer County Community College that is distributed to alumni and friends.

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On the cover: Dr. Terri Grates Day '92 serves as the fifth president of Herkimer County Community College.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I reflect on my first six months as president of Herkimer County Community College, I am reminded that this institution is defined by people and possibility. Our alumni are central to that story. You carry HCCC with you into your work, your families, and your communities; and your journeys continue to shape the College long after graduation.

My connection to HCCC is both professional and deeply personal. This College has been part of my life for many years and represents what community colleges do best: open doors, meet people where they are, and change the trajectory of lives. Returning to serve as president is a coming home, with a responsibility to honor the College's legacy while helping guide its next chapter.

As we look ahead, HCCC is embracing a clear and intentional direction for the future. Our work is grounded in a simple idea: being meaningful by design. That means every program, partnership, and student experience is intentionally connected to outcomes that matter, for our students, our region, and the future workforce. In the years ahead, the College is focused on strengthening academic pathways that lead directly to careers, transfer, and economic mobility. We are expanding partnerships with employers, K-12 schools, and community organizations to ensure students are gaining skills that are relevant and in demand. We are also investing in student life and support services, because student success is about more than academics alone. It is about belonging, engagement, and feeling supported from day one.

Alumni play a critical role in this next chapter, not only through what you have already accomplished, but through how you continue to engage with the College today. As we celebrate HCCC's 60th anniversary, we are reminded that the College's impact has always been shaped by the generations of students and alumni who believed in its mission. When you mentor a student, hire a graduate, share your story, or stay connected to HCCC, you help turn aspiration into achievement and show current students what is possible. For many alumni, another meaningful way to honor this milestone is through philanthropic support. Your generosity during this anniversary year helps expand access, strengthen academic programs, enhance student life, and invest in the next generation of HCCC students. Every gift, at any level, supports the mission and future of the College.

I invite you to join us this fall for our Homecoming activities, which will be especially meaningful as part of our 60th anniversary celebration. Homecoming offers a chance to reconnect with friends, faculty, and staff, see how the campus continues to evolve, and celebrate the shared experiences that connect generations of HCCC alumni. We would be honored to welcome you back.

I am grateful for the pride alumni feel in this institution and for the many ways you continue to give back. As we move forward, I invite you to stay connected, stay engaged, and be part of shaping what comes next.

**The future of HCCC will be built, as it always has been, by people who believe in the power of access, education, and community.**

Thank you for being part of the HCCC story, then and now.

Herkimer Proud,



Terri Grates Day, PhD  
President





## LEADING WITH PURPOSE: Dr. Terri Grates Day's First Six Months as

**W**hen Terri Grates Day '92 arrived on campus as the fifth president of Herkimer County Community College, she stepped into leadership at a meaningful moment in the institution's history. As the College reflects on six decades of service and impact, it is also looking intentionally toward its future.

From her first day, President Grates Day has grounded her leadership in a clear guiding principle: *Meaningful by Design*. That theme has shaped her first six months, ensuring that every action taken strengthens the College's future.

Strengthening partnerships across Herkimer County and beyond, connecting with local leaders, school districts, nonprofit organizations, and business partners, was an immediate priority for Grates Day. By fostering collaboration and exploring new opportunities for workforce development, her efforts are helping to strengthen the College's position as a key driver of regional growth.

One of the early *Meaningful by Design* decisions during Grates Day's tenure was the return to the College's official name, Herkimer County Community College. This change reaffirms the institution's deep connection to both the

county and the community it serves, underscoring shared responsibility, accountability, and pride. "We are proud to be a county college, accountable to the people and communities of Herkimer County," said Grates Day. "We are equally proud to be a community college, open, accessible, and responsive to learners of all ages, employers, and families throughout the region."

The President's arrival coincides with the launch of the College's accreditation self-study, a comprehensive, multi-year process that examines how the institution fulfills its mission, supports student learning, and plans for continuous improvement. She has emphasized transparency, broad participation, and shared ownership throughout this important work.

Students remain central to Grates Day's leadership. She is a visible presence at campus events, student activities, and informal gatherings, and she consistently seeks student input to inform institutional decisions. This approach reflects a deep understanding of today's learners, including first-generation students and those balancing academics with work, family, and other responsibilities.

“On a personal level, this milestone is especially meaningful to me. It is truly an honor to serve the community that helped raise me. As a proud alumna of Herkimer County Community College, I know firsthand the impact this institution can have. The education and support I received here helped shape my path, and it strengthens my commitment to making sure future students have those same opportunities.”



## President

The College’s 60th anniversary provides a powerful backdrop for Grates Day’s early presidency. The milestone offers an opportunity to honor the institution’s legacy while setting a clear course for what comes next.

“This anniversary asks us to look forward. Being a long-standing community institution means continuing to listen, adapt, and respond to changing needs,” said Grates Day. As she looks ahead, the President remains focused on collaboration, workforce development, community-centered initiatives, and programs that support county residents.

**President Grates Day’s first six months signal leadership rooted in purpose, intention, and deep connection to place as Herkimer County Community College enters its next chapter.**



1966–2026

# Herkimer County Community College is Celebrating 60 Years!



**FOR SIX DECADES, HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE HAS BEEN OPENING DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY, TRANSFORMING LIVES, AND STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY.**

Since its founding in 1966, HCCC has been rooted in a simple but powerful mission: to provide opportunity. What began as a few make-shift classrooms in an old factory building in Ilion, NY, has grown into a dynamic institution serving students from across New York State and beyond, offering innovative academic programs, nationally recognized online learning, and a student experience grounded in support and belonging.

“Milestones like this give us a chance to not only pause and reflect, but they also ask us to recommit to who we are and why we exist,” said President Terri Grates Day. “For 60 years, this College has been an active participant in the community it serves. Our history is deeply connected to the people, families, employers, and organizations who have believed in the power of education.”

Throughout 2026, the College will commemorate its 60th anniversary with activities and celebrations highlighting our people, traditions, and commitment to community. Alumni, students, faculty, staff, and community partners will be invited to participate in activities that reflect the College’s enduring core values of community, excellence, integrity, and opportunity.

“This year, we invite you to celebrate with us, serve with us, and help shape what the next 60 years will bring,” said Grates Day. “This College belongs to the community it serves, and together, our best days are ahead of us.”

**On January 13, 1966, the SUNY Trustees resolved to sponsor and establish a community college for Herkimer County. Approval was given for classes to begin in 1967 with a predicted full-time enrollment of 200 to 225 students. With that resolution, Herkimer County Community College became the 29th community college in New York State.**



## A Student's Vision Becomes the Symbol of 60 Years

As the College prepared to celebrate its 60th anniversary, we turned to our students to help shape the look of this milestone. HCCC students and local high school students were invited to take part in a logo design contest.

The winning design was created by John Fisher, an online student from Bethpage, New York, majoring in Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics.

A panel of judges evaluated seven submissions based on creativity, relevance, and versatility across print, digital, and promotional platforms. “John’s design captured both the history and the forward momentum of the College in a way that truly reflects who we are at this important milestone,” said President Terri Grates Day. “As we celebrate 60 years of service to our students and the greater Mohawk Valley, this logo will serve as a lasting visual representation of our shared pride, purpose, and sense of possibility.”

Fisher’s winning design will be featured throughout the year, appearing in College publications, online communications, and commemorative materials. In recognition of his achievement, Fisher also received a \$100 prize.

# 60 Acts of Service for 60 Years

## **PARTNER WITH US. SERVE WITH US. CELEBRATE WITH US.**

Throughout 2026, the College will carry out 60 Acts of Service for 60 Years, an initiative focused on meaningful community engagement across Herkimer County.

The initiative invites local municipalities and nonprofit organizations to partner with the College by proposing service projects that can be completed by students, faculty, and staff.

**Projects may include community clean-ups, donation drives, mentoring and tutoring programs, environmental initiatives, support for special events, and creative efforts in reading, STEM, and the arts.** Once selected, each project

will be matched with a campus group, such as a student club, academic program, athletic team, or College department, that will work directly with the organization to complete the project.

Every completed project will be highlighted through a digital service tracker and celebrated during an end-of-year recognition event.

“Each act is a simple but sincere way of saying thank you to a community that has supported this institution for decades,” said Grates Day. “Service has always been part of who we are, and this initiative brings that commitment to life.”

For more information and to access the Service Request Form, visit [www.herkimer.edu/60acts](http://www.herkimer.edu/60acts).



# From Myth to Magazine: *Phaethon's* Award-Winning Legacy

HCCC's annual literary and arts publication, *Phaethon*, represents the very best of creativity, collaboration, and expression. Each year, this publication is reimagined, resulting in a beautifully curated collection of artwork, poetry, photography, and other original works by students and employees.

**The 2025 issue of *Phaethon* was named Best Magazine by the Community College Humanities Association (CCHA), Eastern Division.**

The publication has earned consistent recognition from the CCHA over the years, a testament to its enduring excellence and the creative culture it fosters on campus. In the 2025 competition, Nassau Community College earned second place, followed by Baltimore County Community College in Maryland.

The Eastern Division is comprised of community colleges of all sizes in Connecticut, Washington DC, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Puerto Rico.

*Phaethon* was also recognized by The Genesis Group as an Outstanding Program during its annual Celebration of Education. The award highlights the magazine's impact as a meaningful educational experience and its contribution to student success and creative development.

Behind the scenes, the 2025 issue was shaped by a dedicated student editorial team, whose members gained hands-on experience in leadership, collaboration, and the publishing process. The team included Tanner Griffin (fiction editor), Ajiana Martinez '25 (poetry editor), and visual editors Hailey Ramos, Lyla Williams '25, Isabella Suppa '25, and Sidney Gillogly '25.

Student editors worked closely with faculty advisors Matthew Powers '03, assistant professor of English; Andrew Devitt '94, assistant professor

of English; and Blake Pitcher '99, professor of digital graphics.

To request a copy, email [litmag@herkimer.edu](mailto:litmag@herkimer.edu). Digital versions of all issues are available at: [www.herkimer.edu/phaethon](http://www.herkimer.edu/phaethon).



First Place, Photography: *Echoes* by Andrew Aiello '25



First Place, Best Short Story: "In Plain Sight" by Tyler McBee '25



Third Place, Artwork: Cover Painting by Lillian Norris



*Phaethon* advisors Matthew Powers '03, Andrew Devitt '94, and Blake Pitcher '99



Blake Pitcher '99 and The Genesis Group's Anthony Nicotera

## FACULTY FEATURES

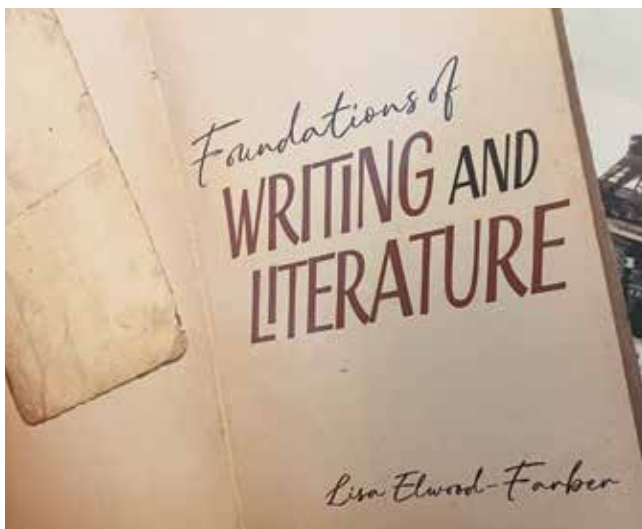
### Dr. Lisa Elwood-Farber Publishes Textbook and Essays

Dr. Lisa Elwood-Farber, professor of English, has published her first textbook, *Foundations of Writing and Literature*, with Kendall Hunt Publishing. The book is designed to guide students in writing and literature courses, as well as in any college class requiring written work.

“It covers reading, annotating, analyzing texts, and drafting original ideas,” Elwood-Farber said.

“Students learn to think critically, write clearly, and develop their own understanding of the world through reading and writing.”

Since joining HCCC in 2003, Elwood-Farber has earned a PhD in Literature and Criticism and received the 2019 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities. Her literary work has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies, including the anthology *Outlander and Lord John as Crime Fiction: Essays on the Novel, Stories, and TV Series*, where she examined the popular works through the lens of crime fiction and narrative structure. Her most recent essay was published in Louisa May Alcott’s *Work: A Story of Experience and the Heroine’s Educational Journey to the Professions*, a volume that explores education, gender, and professional identity in Alcott’s writing.



### Justin Como Leads Mural Project

Justin Como, associate professor of studio art, is deeply engaged in the regional arts community. He was lead artist for the community mural project in Herkimer, helping create a large-scale public artwork that reflects local identity and shared experience.

Como recently presented a solo exhibition titled *Permeable Interoception* at the Mohawk Valley Center for the Arts. Featuring sculptures and paintings, the exhibition explored themes of inner awareness, perception, and the subtle connections between body and mind.

Como also manages and curates the Cogar Gallery exhibitions at HCCC, bringing a variety of artistic experiences to campus. Through his work as an educator, curator, and practicing artist, Como continues to enrich both the College and the broader Mohawk Valley arts landscape.

# A New Era of Workforce Development at HCCC

**H**erkimer County Community College is pleased to launch a new Office of Workforce and Economic Development.

Designed to serve as a bridge between HCCC and employers, industries, and communities throughout the Mohawk Valley, the office will drive the creation, delivery, and expansion of innovative and industry-aligned workforce programs that respond to the region’s evolving needs. From credit and non-credit courses and microcredentials to apprenticeships, internships, workshops, and short-term training opportunities, the new team will help position HCCC as a hub of workforce vitality in Herkimer County.

The office will also serve as HCCC’s liaison to the SUNY Office of Workforce Development and Upward Mobility, connecting the College to a number of capacity-building programs and resources available through the SUNY system and other New York State partners. Many of these resources are designed specifically for community colleges, providing HCCC with a unique opportunity to strengthen existing academic programs while introducing new offerings aligned with regional and statewide workforce priorities.

More details about upcoming initiatives and partnerships will be shared in the coming months as this new chapter unfolds. Stay tuned!

“We look forward to playing a key role in helping the College leverage capacity-building resources across New York State and beyond.”

– Scott Scheible

## SCOTT SCHEIBLE

Executive Director of Workforce and Economic Development

Scott Scheible brings more than 15 years of experience in higher education, with expertise spanning continuing and professional education, workforce and economic development, career readiness, industry engagement, online learning, research administration, and fundraising. Throughout his career, he has led a wide range of programs and initiatives designed to strengthen connections between colleges and the communities they serve.



Before joining HCCC, Scheible served as deputy director of the Brooks Center for Infrastructure at Cornell University, an industry-aligned academic center focused on the intersection of infrastructure, emerging technology, and public policy. During his time at Cornell, he also led the career services office within the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning and advised experienced professionals pursuing certificate programs in engineering, technology, and project management.

Scheible previously served as director of Continuing and Professional Education at SUNY Polytechnic Institute, where he led efforts to build a comprehensive continuing and professional education program aligned with regional workforce needs. Earlier in his career at the University of Notre Dame and Carnegie Mellon University, he developed recruiting partnerships with leading employers and advised graduate students preparing for leadership roles in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

He holds a master’s degree in urban planning with a specialization in economic development from the University at Buffalo, a master’s degree in industrial and labor relations from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor’s degree in employment relations from SUNY Potsdam.

**JORDYAN MUELLER**  
Workforce Development  
Coordinator



Jordyan Mueller brings experience in program development and strategic planning across local, statewide, and national initiatives in education, government, and the nonprofit sector. She has served as consultant coordinator for the New York State Unified Court System, planning consultant for the Town of Little Falls, and transition consultant for Catholic Charities. Across these roles, Mueller has focused on strengthening

organizational systems, building cross-sector partnerships, and supporting long-term community resilience.

Mueller has led multi-stakeholder initiatives and facilitated professional trainings in diverse institutional settings. Her work is grounded in collaboration, equity, and practical implementation—an approach that aligns closely with HCCC’s commitment to responsive, community-centered workforce development.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Purchase College.

## NEW PROGRAMS OF STUDY

### English A.A.

A new degree program in English is enrolling students for the Fall 2026 semester. The program is designed to strengthen writing, critical thinking, and communication skills while providing a rich introduction to literature. Ideal for students planning to transfer to a four-year college, the program offers a flexible, inclusive curriculum that celebrates the power of language and storytelling.

Students will explore diverse authors, genres, and historical periods, gaining insight into the cultural and social contexts that shape literature. Faculty mentorship and peer collaboration create an engaging learning environment where students can focus on areas of personal interest, from literary movements to specific authors.

Graduates will be prepared not only for continued study in English and related fields but also for careers in communications, content creation, marketing, publishing, education, and nonprofit work.

Learn more at  
[www.herkimer.edu/English](http://www.herkimer.edu/English)



The Herkimer County Community College English faculty. From left: Christian Avis, Cynthia Gabriel, Lisa Elwood-Farber, PhD, and Matthew Powers.

### Artificial Intelligence A.A.S.

A new degree in Artificial Intelligence (AI)–Business is enrolling students for Fall 2026. AI–Business is designed to prepare students for success in one of today’s fastest-growing and most in-demand fields.

The program provides a solid foundation in AI concepts, machine learning, big data, and the ethical considerations shaping the digital economy. With an emphasis on practical business applications, students learn how to bridge the gap between

technology and strategy—skills increasingly essential in today’s global marketplace.

Graduates will be prepared to analyze information across business functions, provide strategic insights, and leverage AI and data-driven tools for effective decision-making. Career opportunities include AI analyst, data science analyst, machine learning data scientist, AI trainer, and labeling specialist.

Learn more at  
[www.herkimer.edu/AI-Business](http://www.herkimer.edu/AI-Business)



# Recent New Leadership Appointments

**William McDonald**  
Chief of Staff/Director of  
Operations



William McDonald most recently served as HCCC's dean of academic affairs, providing oversight for more than 40 degree and certificate programs and supervising more than 50 faculty.

McDonald previously held positions as associate dean, assistant to the president, and director of continuing education, for a combined total of nearly two decades of service.

McDonald holds a Master of Science in Education in leadership and instruction for inclusive classrooms from Utica College, as well as a Bachelor of Science in management with a concentration in human resources management.

**Lori Nichols '90**  
Director of Human  
Resources



With more than 25 years of leadership and human resource experience, Lori Nichols most recently served as chief human resources officer for Tidal Basin Group.

She is an active member of the Mohawk Valley Society for Human Resource Management and the Society for Human Resource Management, and she serves on the College's Career Services Advisory Committee.

Nichols holds a bachelor's in professional studies with a concentration in business public management from SUNY Polytechnic Institute. She also earned an associate degree in applied science in business administration from HCCC.

She is a graduate of the Leadership Mohawk Valley Program and has completed professional development courses at the Disney Institute.

**Michael J. Jory**  
Director of Campus  
Safety



Michael J. Jory served as chief of police for the Herkimer Police Department prior to joining HCCC. As chief, Jory was responsible for overseeing all police operations, personnel, and resources, setting departmental policies, ensuring public safety, managing budgets, ensuring compliance with laws and regulations and fostering community relationships.

Jory served as an officer, detective sergeant, and captain of detectives for the Gloversville Police Department from 1995–2016 and was the deputy sheriff for Herkimer County from 1989–1995.

Jory holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Buffalo State College. He is the recipient of the NYS Fire Investigators Arson Investigation of the Year Award in 2010 and the Catholic Charities Window of Hope Award in 2019.

**Jessicca Fiore**  
Dean of Enrollment  
Management



Jessicca Fiore oversees the Admissions, Financial Aid, and Registrar offices, as well as concurrent enrollment. She joined HCCC in 2020 as a senior academic advisor and was promoted to registrar in 2022. Fiore came to Herkimer from Montclair State University, where she served in several positions, including program associate in the Academic Success Center, undergraduate admissions counselor, communications assistant, and orientation leader.

She holds a Master of Arts in educational leadership and administration, higher education, and a Bachelor of Arts in communication studies and public relations from Montclair State University. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Education at Penn State University.

## Meet Our New Faculty



### **Kasper A. Cuda**

Assistant Professor, Science

Kasper Cuda has joined the faculty as an assistant professor of science after serving as a grant administrator for the Health CARES Consortium since 2023. Cuda previously was a teaching assistant for biology at Clarkson University. She holds a master's degree in health administration from Utica University, and two bachelor's degrees from Clarkson University – one in biomolecular science with a minor in biology and another in chemistry.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

## Retirement

### **MARJORIE MOORE** Director of Academic Support Center

After 35 years of exceptional service, Marjorie Moore retired in December 2024 from her role as director of the Academic Support Center, leaving a lasting legacy of leadership, innovation, and unwavering commitment to student success.



Since joining the College in 1989, Moore guided the evolution of the Academic Support Center into a vital, inclusive hub for learning, providing free tutoring in more than 140 courses, academic support coaching, workshops and programs, computer lab access, and specialized services for students with disabilities. Her vision and advocacy helped shape key initiatives such as the addition of academic coaches, developmental education efforts, the summer Jump Start program for at-risk students, and learning communities. Moore's dedication to data-informed practice and continuous improvement earned her merit awards in 1997, 2001, 2014, and 2022.

In recognition of her distinguished career, the Board of Trustees conferred emeritus status upon her on April 28, 2025.

## Faculty Promotion

### **JASON BROWN** Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of English

Jason Brown joined the faculty in 2004 and was awarded the Exemplary Online SUNY Educator Award in 2019 and the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2020. He has been an active participant in the Academic Senate, serving as chair and co-chair of several committees and as an officer. Brown's application for promotion received the maximum number of points allowed, a testament to his hard work and commitment.



## 2025 SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

SUNY's excellence awards are designed for faculty and staff who personify professional excellence and serve as role models not only for the State of New York, but for the College as well. They publicly acknowledge superior professional achievement while encouraging the pursuit of excellence.



**Vicki Brown, Excellence in Professional Service**

Vicki Brown has been a dedicated member of the College community since 2006, serving as director of student activities and, since September 2023, as Title IX coordinator for students. A passionate and positive leader, she is deeply committed to enhancing the student experience through inclusive activities and events while advancing the College's mission and image. Her many contributions include developing the orientation course, playing a key role in the collaborative redesign of the First Year Experience Program, and actively pursuing professional development to remain at the forefront of her field. Brown's leadership extends across campus through service on several key committees, including co-chairing the Commencement Committee and advising Phi Theta Kappa. She is widely respected for her professionalism, attention to detail, and student-centered approach.



**Amy Getman, Excellence in Teaching**

Professor Getman was appointed as an instructor in 2003. She was promoted to assistant professor of mathematics in 2008 and to associate professor of accounting in 2018. She has consistently demonstrated remarkable flexibility in meeting the needs of a diverse student body. Her hands-on, student-centered teaching style keeps learners actively engaged and supported every step of the way.

Professor Getman incorporates evolving technologies and responds to workforce demands, ensuring her students receive instruction that's both current and practical. Beyond the classroom, she goes the extra mile to help students succeed, offering guidance, encouragement, and support whenever it's needed.



**David Lyon '05, Excellence in Classified Service**

David Lyon '05 joined the staff in 2019 as a groundskeeper and was promoted to working foreperson in 2022. He has distinguished himself through a strong work ethic, reliability, and a proactive mindset, consistently going above and beyond his regular duties. Whether maintaining the beauty of the campus or responding swiftly to unexpected needs, Lyon is committed to ensuring smooth operations and a welcoming environment for students, faculty, and visitors.

With the addition of these three employees, a total of 83 HCCC faculty and staff have been honored with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence. A complete list is available at [Herkimer.edu/chancellor-awards](http://Herkimer.edu/chancellor-awards).



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### Christie Rutigliano '99 The Power of Persistence, Growth, and Starting Again

After graduating from high school in 1992, Christie Rutigliano enrolled at Herkimer County Community College, unsure of her direction. Balancing full-time retail work and college proved challenging, and she ultimately left school to enter the workforce. That decision set her on a path she couldn't have predicted, one that would eventually lead back to the College, and to a career she loves.

Rutigliano's professional journey began at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Utica–Watertown where she spent nearly 20 years advancing in the operations division, eventually serving as a business instructor for customer service staff. She discovered a passion for training, curriculum development, and leadership, but also recognized the need for a degree. With employer support, she returned to Herkimer and earned her associate degree in business in 1999.

The impact on her career was immediate and lasting.

“All the tools I learned from that degree, I still pull them out whenever I need them.”

After later spending eight years as a business instructor with another major insurer, Rutigliano was ready for a change. In 2023, she joined Giotto Enterprises/Fiber Instrument Sales, Inc. as a talent acquisition and employee retention specialist. The move launched a new chapter, leading to rapid professional growth and a promotion in 2024 to training coordinator in the company's Fiber Optic Training Division.

“Christie remains deeply engaged in employee activities and consistently demonstrates exceptional professionalism and a genuine passion for helping her colleagues succeed,” says Mark Cushman, vice president of Organizational Development and Human Resources.

Now just three courses away from completing her bachelor's degree in business at SUNY Poly, Rutigliano continues to model the resilience and determination she encourages in others. Her advice to current students is simple: “Stay and finish your degree. Make it a priority. I didn't make it a priority at 18, but once I entered the workforce, I realized how much it could help me progress.”

Rutigliano's story highlights the power of lifelong learning—and the doors that open when you're willing to invest in yourself.

# Nichole Grant '09: Blending Creativity, Community, and Connection

Communication and Media A.S.



Herkimer County Community College provided **Nichole Grant '09** with a hands-on foundation that shaped both her career and creative confidence.

After graduating from HCCC, Grant earned her bachelor's degree in communication studies from Cazenovia College. While HCCC focused on applied learning, Cazenovia added theory and research to her education. "It was neat to have both experiences," Grant said. "HCCC was where I learned how to do a lot, and Caz is where I learned the theory. Then I got to put it all together."

Her early career began in journalism at the *Herkimer Telegram*, where she worked as a reporter for two years. In March 2013, Grant found herself covering one of the most intense breaking-news events in Mohawk Valley history, in which four people were killed, and two were injured in a shooting spree in Mohawk and Herkimer.

Grant was walking along Main Street, Herkimer, for a 'man on the street' assignment when chaos unfolded right in front of her. She worked throughout the day to deliver accurate, real-time updates to the community through online news and social media. Months later, Grant interviewed a survivor and shared his story of overcoming physical and emotional trauma. "I learned how to emotionally tell people's stories," she said. "It was nice to be part of his healing journey after going through the experience myself."

**In recognition of her work, Grant received the Distinguished Breaking News Coverage Award of Excellence from the New York News Publishers Association in April 2014.**

Covering major breaking news taught Grant the emotional responsibility that comes with journalism. "It showed me how important it is to tell people's stories with care while helping the community stay informed," she said.

Grant then spent three years in marketing at the Stanley Theatre, where she planned concerts, Broadway shows, special events, and weddings. "One of my favorite parts was being there for concerts like Martina McBride, REO Speedwagon, and Trace Adkins," she said.

Grant is now a digital marketing coordinator at Sherrill Manufacturing, home of Liberty Tabletop, the only flatware manufacturer in the United States. Eight years into her role, she creates social media content, blogs, photography, and video to market the company's products and share the company's history.

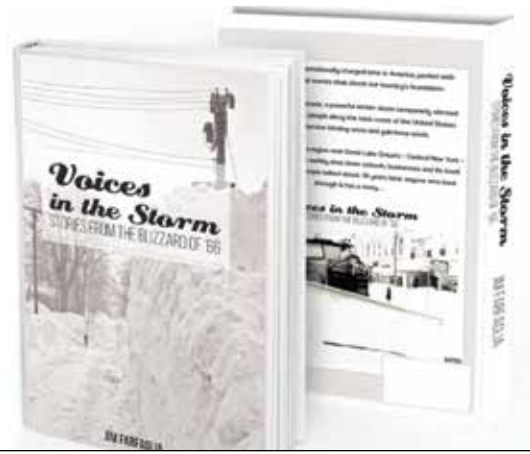
Grant continues to build her skills through professional organizations, public speaking groups, and community involvement. She is also a certified Reiki practitioner, offering sessions through the YMCA in Oneida and at festivals and holistic events.

Reflecting on her journey, Grant credits HCCC with setting her on the path to success.

**"Herkimer helped build the foundation. The hands-on learning and support made all the difference."**

“I consider my time at HCCC the start of where my life would lead me because there were wonderful leaders at the college to inspire us.”

## Jim Farfaglia '75: Lessons that Endure



**Jim Farfaglia '75** looks back on his two years at Herkimer County Community College as both informative and formative, years that quietly set the course for his life and career. After graduating from HCCC, Farfaglia transferred to SUNY Oswego, where he earned his teaching certificate.

Farfaglia said, “I consider my time at HCCC the start of where my life would lead me because there were wonderful leaders at the college to inspire us.”

One of those influences was Professor Shirley Samuels, with whom Farfaglia took several English courses. “Professor Samuels inspired me to not only explore great literary works, but also to explore my own writing,” he said.

That encouragement endured well beyond his college years. Farfaglia’s resume includes titles such as summer camp counselor and director, schoolteacher, DJ, youth services specialist, and life coach. Now 14 years into retirement, Farfaglia is the author of several local history books, a path he directly attributes to the foundation built in Professor Samuels’ classroom. The confidence to write, research, and tell meaningful stories began at HCCC.

Music also played an important role in his experience at Herkimer. Through the influence of Professor Joseph DeLorenzo’s music courses, Farfaglia developed a deeper appreciation for the power of music to shape emotion, memory, and identity. That influence has inspired his current book project, which explores the role music plays during pivotal moments in people’s lives.

The project invites participants to share a song connected to an important experience such as meeting a life partner, leaving home for the first time, or overcoming a personal challenge. Each submission includes both the song title and the story behind it. Together, these narratives will be woven into a book examining the positive and lasting impact music can have throughout a lifetime.

As a regular reader of *Connections*, Farfaglia has long appreciated the magazine’s tradition of highlighting alumni authors and creative voices. He hopes his story may resonate with readers and spark interest in hearing from alumni across generations.

### ONE SONG ONE STORY

- Do you have a song that reminds you of a special person, time or place?
- Has a song ever helped you look at the world differently?
- Is there a song that led you to a better understanding of yourself?

Share the story of your special song here:  
<https://www.jimfarfaglia.com/one-song-one-story>



## Book Nook

In this corner of Connections, we invite you to discover the works of these noteworthy alumni authors.



**Blake Pitcher '99**

### *The Bird Room*

Genre-bending sci-fi set in a fictionalized upstate New York.

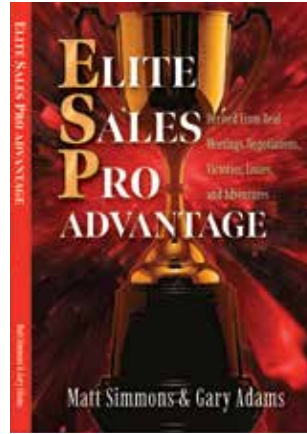
Professor Blake Pitcher '99 has published a new novel, *The Bird Room*, a story that connects the struggle of rural America with the shadow of the supernatural.

Raine Penton would endure anything to succeed at his new job, including mind-numbing orientations and grueling hours. Until he's asked to kill. His would-be target is Ian Swift, a teenager struggling to survive in a rural landscape of economic depression and opioid use. Just another nobody—except his soul unlocks a portal to a powerful mythological entity, worshiped by an underworld cult. Raine's employer, a secretive government contractor, wants him first... or wants him dead.

Pitcher describes the book as “genre-bending sci-fi set in a fictionalized upstate New York.” His previously published works include *Letters from the Apocalypse*, the sequel *Return from the Apocalypse*, and the story collection *Autonomy*.

Pitcher has taught design and communications courses at Herkimer County Community College since 2006.

*The Bird Room* is now available through Amazon and most major online booksellers.



**Matt Simmons '79**

### *Elite Sales Pro Advantage*

“It was such a great time having people come to see us and buy our book.”

Matt Simmons '79 and co-author Gary Adams, who together have 60 years of sales experience, recently published *Elite Sales Pro Advantage*, sharing real stories of their meetings and selling adventures, along with their analysis and lessons.

Both Adams and Simmons are considered among the top tier of salespeople, or Elite Sales Professionals in their respective markets of high-tech manufacturing and medical device sales. They recently held their first book signing at Playas del Coco on the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, where the idea for the book was originally born. “It was such a great time having people come to see us and buy our book. We are off to an exceptional start and anticipate the word on our manuscript will spread via word of mouth and on social media to begin with,” Simmons commented.

This is Simmons' second published book. Last year, he published *Find Your Hidden Treasure Chest*, a self-help book designed to help people find savings in their expenses.

*Elite Sales Pro Advantage* is currently available on Amazon in multiple forms.



**CLASS NOTES**

**David Smith '76** (Marketing A.A.S.) retired from Tri-Valley Beverage in 2016 as an equity manager. He has been married for 45 years and has two children and three grandchildren. "Entering HCCC in 1973 was one of the best decisions I made... The educators at HCCC were top notch and I enjoyed many conversations with the faculty. I played soccer for Coach Paul Mance and baseball for Tom Lapuma. Both were enjoyable experiences. I would like to come back for an alumni weekend and mingle with all."



**Marguerite Lynch '86** earned her Master of Science degree from Nova Southeastern University in 2025. "This journey has been both challenging and rewarding and I am incredibly grateful for the support I received along the way." She is a client solutions consultant for Athena Health.



**Frank Elias '88** (Marketing A.A.S.), founder of Utica Coffee Roasting Company, was named 2025 Business Person of the Year by the Greater Utica Chamber of Commerce for his significant contributions to the region's

business climate, revitalization, and community, with the award recognizing his vision in growing Utica Coffee into a beloved brand synonymous with local pride and resilience. Elias started Utica Coffee in 2005, seeing it as a way to energize the city, create opportunities, and build a brand reflecting Utica's spirit, growing from a roaster to a multi-location business with a strong wholesale and online presence.

**Michael Paul '92** (Science A.S.) is a Senior Research Computer Scientist with the Department of the Air Force. Paul won the 2024 Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) Commander's Cup Richard J. Neal Recognition—Senior



Individual. AFRL is the primary research center for the US Air Force with a workforce of over 12,500 personnel. His work at AFRL's research site in Rome, NY is used operationally throughout the world.

**Regy Thorpe '92** was named women's lacrosse head coach at Syracuse University last spring. A Herkimer lacrosse legend, Thorpe earned NJCAA All-American honors in 1991 and went on to play at Syracuse University, where he led the program to its fifth national championship in 1993. He is a member of the NJCAA Lacrosse Hall of Fame.



**Brenda (Kenyon) Episcopo '94** (Human Services A.A.S.), CEO of Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, was named a Women Who Mean Business honoree for 2025 by Albany Business Review. "Speaking on the panel with the

other five honorees was an uplifting experience, to hear their wisdom, recognize our shared experience, and realize I am among such dynamic women making our communities and businesses better."

**Dan Zitoli '94** (Radio/TV Broadcasting A.A.S.) is a motion graphics and sound design producer for broadcast television. He has spent the last 15 years at the evolving broadcast mainstay that was Turner Broadcasting, now Warner Brothers Discovery, doing most of his work now on the news side at CNN. "A great friend got me started as an admin/logs temp in CNN International, which I later turned into a video tech position, adding CNN Español to my duties. When a position opened up to work on CNN & HLN producing commercial spots, enabling me to use my self-taught motion graphics skills along with audio editing and sound design that I first learned at HCCC, I was excited to take it! Fast forward to present day, some things have



Submit your class notes at [herkimer.edu/classnotes](http://herkimer.edu/classnotes)

**CLASS NOTES**

**Dan Zitoli '94** (continued) changed, but I'm now the main producer for all CNN commercial broadcast billboards/ TV spots."

**Marc Barraco '13** (Radio/TV Broadcasting A.A.S.) was promoted to chief of staff at Mohawk Valley EDGE, where he plays a central role in advancing regional economic development initiatives across Herkimer and Oneida Counties. In this leadership position, Barraco coordinates strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and cross-sector collaboration to support transformative projects that strengthen the Mohawk Valley economy. Among his recent contributions, Barraco has been instrumental in organizing a regional dairy roundtable in response to Chobani's announcement of a \$1.2 billion processing facility at Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome. The initiative unites agricultural producers, workforce development partners, and policy leaders to ensure the dairy industry and local communities benefit from this major investment.



practice with Hrabchak, Gebo and Langone, PC. He was elected to serve as Jefferson County Family Court Judge in 2014, retiring in December 2024.

**Joseph J. Putnam '83** (Science A.S.), of Richfield Springs, passed away on October 17, 2025. He continued his education at SUNY Oneonta and worked for the Department of Environmental Conservation, after which he became a biology teacher in the Milford School District.

**Lucius A Gotti Jr.** passed away on July 24, 2025. Gotti joined the college staff in 1968 serving as director of student services, director of counseling and financial aid, and assistant dean of counseling and director of financial aid. He retired in 1988 and was awarded emeritus status in 1991.

**President Emeritus Ronald F. Williams, EdD** passed away on February 16, 2025. Dr. Williams served as second president of HCCC from 1986–2008 and was awarded the title of president emeritus upon retirement. Williams provided strong, visionary leadership and contributed to the institution's growth and success across all areas of its operations.



Under Williams' leadership, the College expanded its physical footprint with the construction of the Reservoir Run housing complex, the Hummel Corporate and Professional Education Center, the Technology Center, and Wehrum Stadium, as well as the expansion of the Robert McLaughlin College Center and the Physical Education and Library Buildings. Williams made lasting contributions to numerous programming areas, including international recruitment, online learning, and several leading academic programs.

In 2019, Williams was honored with the institution's most prestigious award, the Torchbearer's Award, in recognition of his significant contributions to the development and growth of the College.

**IN MEMORIAM**



**Richard Hicks '85** (Radio/TV Broadcasting A.A.S.), of Slidell, LA, passed away on April 11, 2025. Hicks continued his education at SUNY Plattsburgh and was a distinguished sales representative at Oneida Limited Silversmiths and The Vollrath Company.

**The Honorable Eugene Joseph Langone Jr. '81** (Science A.S.) passed away on June 20, 2025. After graduating from Herkimer, Langone continued his education at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Dayton School of Law. Langone began his career with Kurtz and Assoc. and, in 1995, he went into private





## A Hall of Fame Legacy: Michael Iannelli

“Being inducted into the NJCAA Soccer Hall of Fame is an incredible honor and a truly humbling experience that I’ll cherish for a long time. The ceremony itself was beautiful, but what made it truly unforgettable was the opportunity to share the moment with my family. Having them by my side to celebrate this milestone meant the world to me.”

Former standout soccer player Michael Iannelli was inducted into the 2025 NJCAA Men’s Soccer Hall of Fame. Iannelli’s legacy remains one of the most accomplished and dominant in the history of Generals athletics.

Iannelli played a pivotal role in leading the men’s soccer program through the 1995 and 1996 seasons, serving as a two-year captain and anchoring one of the most successful teams in NJCAA history.

During his two seasons, the Generals achieved a remarkable 49-0-0 overall record, capturing back-to-back NJCAA Division III national championships. As a defender, Iannelli contributed on both ends of the field, recording 14 goals and 13 assists, while providing leadership and consistency to a championship-caliber back line.

Following his Herkimer career, Iannelli earned an athletic scholarship to NCAA Division I West Virginia University, where he completed his bachelor’s degree in physical education.

Iannelli is an athletic director and physical education teacher at Morris Central School after beginning his career as an adaptive physical education teacher at ONC BOCES.

### Iannelli’s individual accomplishments during his Herkimer career include:

- **NJCAA Division III Second Team All-American**
- **NJCAA Region III First Team honoree**
- **1996 NJCAA Division III All-Tournament Team selection**
- **Two-time national champion**
- **Two-year team captain**

Pictured with Iannelli are his mother Anna, wife Debbie, and sons Michael, Anthony, and Niko.

# LACROSSE

## 50 Years of Tradition, Grit, and Generals Pride:

## Celebrating Herkimer Lacrosse



For five decades, Herkimer Generals Lacrosse has been a tradition, a proving ground, and a lifelong bond for hundreds of student-athletes who have proudly worn the Generals jersey. As the program marks its 50th anniversary, the College celebrates a legacy built on competitive success, dedicated coaching, and alumni whose impact reaches far beyond the field.

Established in 1976, the lacrosse program quickly became a cornerstone of Herkimer athletics.

In its earliest seasons, the program was shaped by founding and long-time head coach Paul Wehrum whose leadership established the culture of hard work, accountability, and teamwork that continues to define the program today.

As lacrosse grew in popularity across New York State and nationally, Herkimer's program grew alongside it, attracting talented student-athletes from throughout the region and beyond, with Long Island and Onondaga County always well-represented. Players were drawn to the opportunity to compete at a high level while preparing for the next chapter of their academic and athletic careers.

### Herkimer Lacrosse Success

- 9 NJCAA national championships
- 21 Region III championships
- 31 Mohawk Valley Conference titles
- 100+ All-American players

Central to the program's success has been a line of dedicated coaches who helped shape not only winning teams but also strong individuals. Each has left a lasting mark on the program through their leadership, competitive vision, and commitment to player development.

For many alumni, their coaches remain mentors and role models whose influence extended far beyond the lacrosse field.

Perhaps the greatest measure of the program's success can be found in its alumni. Former Generals have gone on to continue their lacrosse careers, many on athletic scholarships, at colleges such as University at Albany, Mercy College, Adelphi University, St. Johns University, and Syracuse University. And a few even went on to play pro or coach!

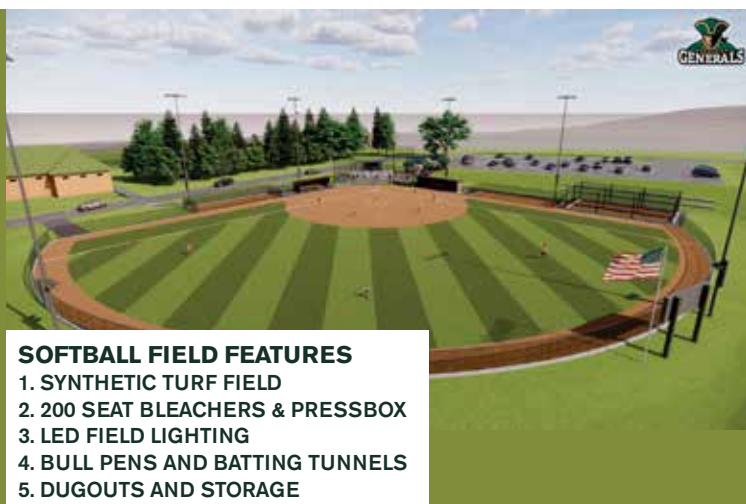
No matter where life has taken them, alumni consistently point to Herkimer lacrosse as a formative experience, one that taught leadership, resilience, and the importance of working toward a common goal.

Beyond wins and losses, Herkimer lacrosse is defined by its sense of brotherhood. Many alumni remain closely connected to the program, returning to campus to support current players and reconnect with teammates. For some, Herkimer lacrosse has become a family tradition, spanning generations of Generals.

Fifty years of Herkimer lacrosse tells a story of players, coaches, and alumni who carried the lessons of the program well beyond Herkimer. As new students join the program, they are connected to that history and ready to add their own chapters to the story.

# A New Era for Generals Athletics

This spring marks a significant milestone for Generals Athletics, as a series of major facilities upgrades is completed.



## SOFTBALL FIELD FEATURES

1. SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD
2. 200 SEAT BLEACHERS & PRESSBOX
3. LED FIELD LIGHTING
4. BULL PENS AND BATTING TUNNELS
5. DUGOUTS AND STORAGE
6. BALL NETTING BACKSTOP
7. FULL FENCING AND WIND SCREEN
8. NEW PARKING LOT



## BASEBALL FIELD FEATURES

1. SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD
2. 200 SEAT BLEACHERS & PRESSBOX
3. LED FIELD LIGHTING
4. BULL PENS AND BATTING TUNNELS
5. DUGOUTS AND STORAGE
6. BALL NETTING BACKSTOP
7. FULL FENCING AND WIND SCREEN

The baseball field, which had been in use for more than two decades, has been fully replaced. The new, state-of-the-art field delivers a dependable playing surface designed to withstand the demands of a full competitive season. With the upgrade complete, the College expands its ability to host national, regional, and local tournaments, as well as recruitment events that showcase the Generals at the highest level.

Similarly, the softball program now has a brand-new stadium located just past Wehrum Stadium. The new location improves access for both athletes and spectators to nearby locker rooms and restrooms. The addition of lighting further enhances the facility, extending playing and practice opportunities and increasing the College's capacity to host tournaments and recruitment events.

Inside the Physical Education Building, long-awaited renovations have modernized spaces that have supported generations of Generals. The original men's and women's locker rooms, dating

back to 1970, were completely rebuilt to meet current standards in appearance and functionality.

The renovated athletic training room is now a more efficient and functional space capable of meeting the growing demands of athletic training and sports medicine services. The improvements will ensure that student-athletes receive care in a facility aligned with modern best practices.

Rounding out the upgrades is a new roof on the Physical Education Building and newly renovated parking lots and roadways, enhancing safety, accessibility, and traffic flow for students, employees, and visitors.

Together, these improvements reflect the College's continued commitment to excellence in athletics, facilities, and the overall student experience. For alumni, they stand as a reminder that while Generals' traditions run deep, HCCC continues to invest boldly in the future.

"These upgrades ensure our student-athletes compete, train, and recover in facilities that reflect the excellence of Generals Athletics."

– Donald Dutcher, Dean of Students/Director of Athletics

# SOFTBALL

## A Farewell to the Field, A Celebration of Generals Softball

More than 35 Herkimer Generals softball alumni returned to campus this past fall for a memorable alumni game that celebrated tradition, connection, and a meaningful turning point for the program.

The day began in the Cogar Gallery, where alumni gathered for a brief presentation highlighting the vital role graduates play in recruiting future student-athletes and supporting the program financially. Over coffee and fresh-baked cookies, alumni reconnected and reflected on the impact of their time at Herkimer.

From there, the group toured the ongoing construction of the new softball stadium, a first look at the future of Generals softball. Before the game, alumni and their families enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs at the old field, which served as the backdrop for a heartfelt farewell. This alumni game was intentionally themed

as a goodbye to the field that hosted decades of memories and milestones, promoted as:

**“Where Friendships, Dreams & Legends Were Born, Her Final Season Fall 2025.”**

Each alum (and their young children) received a commemorative alumni shirt, while alumni parents with little ones took part in the ceremonial first pitch. The children’s shirts proudly read, “My Mom Is a Herkimer Softball Alum,” adding a special generational touch to the day. The game itself was both competitive and fun, as alumni (some well into their 30s) dove for balls and made plays reminiscent of championship seasons, including the 2013 national title run. The final out gave way to hugs, laughter, and tears of happiness, followed by one last team photo in centerfield featuring both alumni and the current squad.

Many alumni capped off the day with a mixer at Stone Soup, a new local restaurant, continuing the celebration well into the evening.

Newly appointed head coach Dan Stalteri said, “It was special for me because it was the support being shown for my return as well as our college and softball program. My heart exploded with the love, respect, and dedication our alumni had for Herkimer County Community College.”

For everyone who attended, and those who wished they could, the day was a powerful reminder of the bonds formed at Herkimer. For the program, it was a heartfelt show of support and pride, and a true testament to the impact of the student-athlete experience.

Plans are already underway for the next alumni game in fall 2026, when alumni will take the field in the new stadium.



# Coming Home to Lead: Dan Stalteri '85 Returns as Head Softball Coach



**Dan Stalteri '85** has returned home as the Generals' new head softball coach. A familiar face on campus and a respected leader throughout Central New York softball, Stalteri returns to his alma mater with decades of experience and a legacy of success at every level of the game.

Stalteri brings more than a decade of coaching experience spanning high school, collegiate, and elite travel softball programs. He previously served as associate head softball coach for the College from 2012 to 2018, playing a key role in the Generals' 2013 NJCAA Division III national championship season. That championship run earned the coaching staff National Coaching Staff of the Year honors and remains a defining moment in the program's history.

At the high school level, Stalteri led varsity softball programs at Herkimer High School from 2011 to 2019 and New Hartford High School from 2020 to 2025. During that time, his teams captured six divisional titles, a 2022 Section III Class A championship, and a Class A regional final appearance. He was named All-Mohawk Valley Co-Coach of the Year in 2022 in recognition of his leadership and competitive success.



Sports

"We're thrilled to welcome Coach Stalteri back to the campus community as our new head softball coach. He has a deep understanding of our program's tradition and values and brings a passion for development and competition that will elevate our student-athletes on and off the field."

– Donald Dutcher, Dean of Students/Director of Athletics

Stalteri has also made a lasting impact on the travel softball circuit, coaching the Utica Lady Comets' 16U and 18U teams from 2020 to 2023. He currently oversees player development for the organization's 8U–16U teams, helping young athletes build skill and confidence.

A 1985 graduate of HCCC, Stalteri went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Utica College of Syracuse University in 1987. He is vice president of Hummel's Contract Furniture Division, serves as a town councilman and deputy supervisor for the Town of Herkimer, and is a private batting instructor.



# COACHES CORNER

## Matt Lee '01

**Matt Lee**, head men's basketball coach, earned his 500th career win on November 22, 2024 and was inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame on Sunday, April 13, 2025. Lee has led Herkimer to three of its four all-time national title game appearances, including a historic run to the 2019 NJCAA Division III National Championship.

## Pepe Aragon '91

**Pepe Aragon** was named an inaugural recipient of the NJCAA Coaches Legacy Award, honoring the coaches with the most wins in NJCAA history. In 28 seasons as head coach of the men's soccer program, Pepe led the Generals to seven national championships and 20 consecutive Region III titles, compiling an impressive 476-54-22 record.

## Lane Potter '10

**Lane Potter**, head baseball coach, earned his 100th career win on May 10, 2025, in just under three seasons.

## Terry McKane

**Terry McKane** brings over 30 years of coaching experience and a championship pedigree to the women's volleyball program. He has led high school teams to six Section III titles, 15 CSC League championships, and earned five Section III Class C Coach of the Year honors. McKane teaches physical education at Mt. Markham Central School and has also guided their tennis program to four Section III Class C team championships. He holds an associate degree from Broome Community College, a bachelor's in physical education from SUNY Cortland, and a master's in athletic education from West Virginia University.

## A Fresh Face for a Familiar Favorite

If you've noticed our General looking a little sharper lately, you're not imagining things. A few months ago, the Herkimer General debuted a fresh new look—and he's been turning heads ever since.

Still the same symbol of strength, pride, and Generals spirit, the redesigned mascot brings a modern edge to a familiar favorite. The update honors tradition while giving the General a bigger, bolder, more iconic presence for today's students, alumni, and fans.



Whether cheering on the Generals from the sidelines or making appearances across campus, the Herkimer General continues to unite our community.

## 20 YEARS AND COUNTING

Herkimer County Community College placed 7th in the 2024–25 National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA) Ron Case Cup, formerly known as the Daktronics Cup. Herkimer is the only non-scholarship school to have achieved a top-10 placement for 20 consecutive years!

The Cup recognizes excellence in two-year college athletics through championship competition across all sports.

## FACTS & FIGURES

### Enrollment (Fall 2024):

Total Headcount	2,291
Full-Time	44%
Part-Time	59%

### Campus:

Herkimer Campus	31%
Internet Academy (100% online)	18%
College Now (Concurrent Enrollment)	46%
P-TECH (Early College High School)	1%
College In Prison	5%

### Gender:

Female	53%
Male	47%

### Age:

24 and under	84%
25 and above	19%

### Residency:

In-State	95%
Out-of-State	3%
International	2%

### Race/Ethnicity:

American Indian or Alaska Native	2.2%
Asian	2.3%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.1%
Black or African American	10.7%
Hispanic/Latino	7.8%
Non-Resident Alien	2.1%
Two or More Races	1.6%
Unreported	7.2%
White (and other)	66%

### Faculty & Staff (Fall 2024):

Full-Time	151
Part-Time (excluding College Now)	116

**Student-to-Faculty Ratio:** 14:1

### 2024-25 Graduates:

Degrees	245
Certificates	25

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

### Art

Art Studio A.S.

### Business

Accounting A.A.S. \*  
Artificial Intelligence - Business A.A.S.  
Business Administration A.A.S. \*  
Business Administration A.S. \*  
Competitive Analytics A.A.S.  
Esports Management A.A.S.  
Fashion Buying & Merchandising A.A.S.  
Human Resource Management A.A.S. \*  
Logistics Management Essentials Microcredential \*\*  
Marketing A.A.S. \*  
Quality Assurance-Business A.S. \*  
Small Business Management A.A.S. \*  
Small Business Management Certificate \*  
Sports & Recreation Management A.A.S.  
Supply Chain Management A.A.S. \*\*

### Communication Arts

Communication and Media A.S.  
Music Industry A.S.

### Criminal Justice & Law

Crime & Intelligence Analysis A.A.S. \*  
Criminal Justice A.A.S. \*  
Criminal Justice A.S. \*  
Cybersecurity & Digital Forensics A.S. \*  
Emergency Management Certificate \*\*  
Forensic Investigations A.A.S.  
Legal Studies A.A.S. \*  
Paralegal Studies Certificate \*  
Pre-Employment Police Basic Training Certificate

### Education

Childhood Education A.S.  
Early Childhood A.A.S.  
Physical Education A.S.

### Healthcare & Service

Health Professions A.S.  
Health Services Management Technology A.A.S. \*\*  
Human Services A.A.S. \*  
Medical Coding - Transcriptionist Certificate \*\*  
Physical Therapist Assistant A.A.S.

### Liberal Arts & Sciences

English A.A.  
General Studies A.A. \*  
Humanities A.A. \*  
Psychology A.A. \*  
Science A.S.  
Social Science A.A. \*

### STEM

Computer and Network Security A.A.S.  
Computer Science A.S.  
Electrical Technology A.A.S.  
Engineering Science A.S.  
Quality Assurance - Science A.S. \*  
Science A.S.

\*also offered online and on campus \*\*online only



# Herkimer

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## Upcoming Events

### Spring Open House

Saturday, April 18, 2026

[herkimer.edu/openhouse](https://herkimer.edu/openhouse)

### 58th Annual Commencement

Friday, May 15, 2026, 4 p.m.

[herkimer.edu/commencement](https://herkimer.edu/commencement)

### Herkimer County

#### Fire in the Sky Palooza

Wednesday, July 1, 2026, 5–10 p.m.

HCCC's Wehrum Stadium

Food trucks, family activities, live music,  
and a spectacular fireworks display!

### Fall Fest & Homecoming

Saturday, September 26 and

Sunday, September 27, 2026

[herkimer.edu/fallfest](https://herkimer.edu/fallfest)

### 47th Herkimer County Arts and Crafts Fair

Saturday, November 7, 2026

[herkimer.edu/ac](https://herkimer.edu/ac)