#### **Discussion Points**

1. The Outstanding Scholars Recruitment Program (OSRP) provides public and independent institutions of higher education with campus-based funding to recruit high achieving New Jersey students as measured by class rank and SAT scores. The maximum OSRP award is \$7,500 for students with SAT scores above 1,500 and a class rank in the top 5 percent. The award amount decreases to \$2,500 for students with SAT scores between 1,350 and 1,390 and class ranks between the 85th and 89th percentiles. This program serves as a retention mechanism for New Jersey's brightest students. It is a matching grant program where the State pays up to 70% of the award at public institutions and 40% at independent institutions. The FY 2006 budget recommendation of \$13.2 million represents a continuation of the FY 2005 appropriation amount and will fund an estimated 5,145 awards (1,599 freshman awards and 3,546 renewal awards), the same number of awards as in FY 2005.

The FY 2005 appropriations handbook includes language directing the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) to conduct a study on the outcomes of the Outstanding Scholars Recruitment Program (OSRP) and its effectiveness in increasing the enrollment and retention of high achieving New Jersey high school graduates. The language also requires HESAA to provide to the Governor, no later than September 1, 2004, a written report specifying the results of the study, including any recommendations for expansion or discontinuation of the program. In response to questions raised at the FY 2005 budget hearings, the executive director of HESAA indicated that a contract for the OSRP study had been awarded at a cost of \$42,000, would be funded from the authority's administrative funds, and would have no impact on the amount of the scholarship awarded to each recipient or the number of OSRP awards in FY 2005.

Question: What was the cost to fund freshman OSRP awards in FY 2005 and
what is the estimated cost to fund freshman awards for FY 2006? Please provide an
update on the status of the study. If the study has been completed, please summarize
the principal findings, conclusions and recommendations. Also, please provide a copy
of the study for the committee's review.

Response: The cost to fund freshmen OSRP awards in FY 2005 is \$4.348 million. Based on the level FY 2006 appropriation recommended by the Governor, the cost of the freshman cohort for FY 2006 is also \$4.348 million. If actual OSRP awards exceed these funded levels, then the OSRP contracts with the participating institutions call for a pro-rata reduction in the proportion of the OSRP awards funded by the State and a corresponding increase in the proportion funded by the institution. The amount of the OSRP awards to students would not be impacted.

The OSRP study found that the program in general promoted the retention of high achieving high school graduates at New Jersey institutions, promoted the enrollment of New Jersey students at New Jersey institutions outside of the students' home regions, positively affected student graduation rates with 66% of OSRP students graduating within four years, and that OSRP awards are among the most generous merit awards in the country, while having one of the most rigorous academic eligibility requirements. The report recommended that the OSRP program be continued, that the marketing of the program be enhanced, that the OSRP program be placed in statute, that additional four-year institutions be encouraged to

participate in the program, that the quality and completeness of the data provided by the institutions be improved, and that the percentage of funding provided to public and independent institutions be equalized. The report has been reviewed by the Governor's office, mailed to participating institutions and is currently available on our website.

- 2. The FY 2006 funding for the Tuition Aid Grant Program (TAG) will increase by \$9.3 million (4.6 percent) from \$202.6 million in FY 2005 to \$211.9 million in FY 2006. However, \$11.2 million of the FY 2005 appropriation amount is scheduled to lapse at the end of the fiscal year. The budget indicates that the FY 2006 recommended appropriation will provide an estimated 54,851 awards in the 2005-2006 academic year, 1,000 more than the number provided in the 2004-2005 academic year (53,851). When fully funded, TAG awards for the neediest students fund up to the full tuition costs at public institutions, and up to 50 percent of the average tuition at independent colleges and universities. Under the FY 2006 recommended language, the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) is directed to provide to students enrolled in public institutions, who are eligible for maximum awards under the TAG Program, an increase above the FY 2005 award amount equal to the difference between the in-state undergraduate 2004-2005 tuition rate for the institution and the institution's in-state undergraduate 2003-2004 tuition rate (one-year lag). The FY 2006 recommended language also directs HESAA to provide comparable increases to students who are eligible for maximum awards enrolled at independent institutions. The language will maintain, for students with the highest need, the existing one-year lag between award amounts and the current year tuition. While students eligible for maximum awards will see their FY 2006 award (based on 2004-2005 tuition rates) increase over the FY 2005 award by an amount which maintains a one-year lag, all other TAG awards will be based on the 2002-2003 tuition rates, a three-year lag behind 2005-2006 tuition rates.
- Question: What is the rationale for continuing to increase the number of TAG awards each year while the TAG award amount pays a lower percentage of a student's tuition each year? What is the estimated cost to HESAA of funding all TAG awards based on the tuition rate for the 2004-2005 academic year, a one-year lag? What percentage of the 2004-2005 tuition rate will FY 2006 TAG awards fund for students receiving a maximum award and for students who are not eligible for a maximum TAG award in each sector? Has consideration been given to using the \$11.2 million scheduled to lapse in FY 2005 to increase awards to the students whose TAG award in FY 2006 will represent a three-year lag behind 2005-2006 tuition rates?

Response: The Tuition Aid Grant program's authorizing statute provides that an equitable TAG award be provided to each eligible student. Therefore, each year it is necessary to evaluate enrollment trends and potential impact of new programs, such as NJSTARS, to determine if it is appropriate to recognize a likely increase in TAG awards. Staff evaluated award volume and noted an increase over the last three years. The data indicated the need to include an additional 1,000 awards in the FY2006 TAG table so that awards to all eligible students including new enrollees would not potentially have to be reduced.

The percentage of a student's tuition paid by TAG is determined by the student's demonstrated need (NJEI), annual appropriation, and statutory and budgetary guidelines.

Historically, the maximum TAG award has been based on the prior academic year tuition levels, resulting in a one-year lag for the neediest students, as is the case for FY 2005. The TAG statute authorizes maximum TAG awards at the independent institutions at up to 50% of the weighted average sector tuition. The percentage of weighted average tuition covered by the TAG award in FY 2005 at independent institutions for the neediest students is nearly 50% based on the one-year lag in award values. Based on the same one-year lag in award values, up to 100% of tuition is covered at public institutions for the neediest students. For students not receiving a maximum TAG award, the current (FY2005) TAG table is based on 2001-02 tuition levels, resulting in a three-year lag.

The same award structure is recommended for the FY 2006 TAG program with needlest students funded at FY 2004-05 tuition levels (a one year lag) and all other awards based on FY 2002-03 tuition levels (a three year lag).

To fund all TAG awards at FY 2004-05 tuition levels the cost would be approximately \$230,716,000. This would represent an increase of \$16.04 million above the FY2006 recommended funding level.

The FY 2006 TAG table for students not receiving maximum awards will be based on 2002-03 tuition levels and covers the estimated percentage range of tuition shown below.

County Colleges – approx. 47-94% of 2002-03 tuition State Colleges – approx. 31-94% of 2002-03 tuition Rutgers – approx. 26% - 95% of 2002-03 tuition NJIT – approx. 22% - 94% of 2002-03 tuition Independent – approx. 9% - 47% of 2002-03 weighted average tuition

- 3. The FY 2005 appropriations act included language which provided that if an institution increased average in-state full-time undergraduate tuition in 2004-2005 by more than 8 percent above the prior year, the institution's FY 2005 appropriation would be reduced by an amount equal to twice the revenue it derived from any increase above 8 percent. As a result, the tuition charges at the senior public institutions increased by an average of 7.5 percent in the 2004-2005 academic year. While the FY 2006 recommended budget indicates that, in most cases, funding for General Institutional Operations will be maintained at FY 2005 funding levels, no language is recommended to influence 2005-2006 tuition increases. Data on the Commission on Higher Education's (CHE) website indicates that between the 1999-2000 and 2004-2005 academic years, average tuition for in-state full-time undergraduate students at the State colleges has increased by \$1,767 (49.3 percent) and the average tuition for in-state full-time undergraduate students at Rutgers, The State University and the New Jersey Institute of Technology has increased by \$2,221 (43.2 percent). Overall, between the 1999-2000 and 2004-2005 academic years, individual senior public colleges and universities have annually increased the in-state full-time undergraduate tuition rate by between 3.1 percent and 15 percent above the tuition rate in the previous year.
- Question: Will FY 2005 funds be withheld from any institution pursuant to the above-referenced appropriations language? Is there concern that without language influencing 2005-2006 tuition rates, the 2005-2006 tuition rates will increase by a larger percentage than in 2004-2005? What is the average tuition increase anticipated for the 2005-2006 academic year at the senior public colleges and universities?

Response: Tuition increases for the 2004-2005 academic year ranged from 4.7% to 8.0% at the senior public colleges and universities, averaging 7.5%. Therefore, no funds will be withheld from any institution pursuant to the FY 2005 appropriations language. The Governing boards at the senior public institutions have not yet set their tuition rates for the 2005-2006 academic year; tuition rates are generally finalized after state support levels are determined. However, the institutions are critically aware of the need to minimize tuition increases to the degree possible in order to maintain access and affordability for all students.

4. As part of the FY 2006 budget, the Executive has included projected revenues to be derived from the placement of video lottery terminals at the Meadowlands Racetrack. Subsequently, Assembly Bill No. 3934 and Senate Bill No. 2421, which permit the State Lottery Commission to authorize 5,000 video terminals at the racetrack, were introduced and referred to the appropriate committees in each House. Preliminary estimates indicate that the terminals would generate \$150 million in revenue in the first 6 months of 2006. According to a recent press report, the 9 state college presidents jointly expressed its support for the placement of video lottery terminals at one or more of the State's racetracks and further advocated that the revenue derived from this effort should be used to establish a trust fund to support public institutions of higher education. Revenues from video lottery terminals at State racetracks would provide expanded and affordable college education, preserve and upgrade instructional and research facilities, and fund investment in academic programs which support the State's economic and workforce development priorities.

Question: Based on the FY 2006 budget recommendation, revenue derived from the
placement of video lottery terminals at the Meadowlands Racetrack will not accrue to a higher
education trust fund. Is any alternative mechanism to establish a dedicated funding source
for higher education under consideration?

Response: Several states have created dedicated funding streams as a means of increasing state support for higher education. For example, a percentage of Riverboat Gaming funds supports college facilities in Illinois and Missouri, Texas dedicates a portion of revenue derived from a tax on telephone and wireless services to higher education, and in 2000 Arizona voters approved a 0.6 percent increase in the state sales tax to be dedicated to K-12, the community colleges, and the university system. The creation of a trust fund for higher education from the proceeds from lotteries or video lottery terminals, a dedicated tax, or some other funding stream is an attractive option for addressing the costs associated with growing demands for higher education, all of which are critical to the state's economic competitiveness and quality of life. A more detailed examination of the dedicated funds in other states could help inform New Jersey in searching for a source that is most appropriate to its needs and circumstances.

5. The New Jersey Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship Program (NJSTARS) was established in 2005 under P.L. 2004, c.59. The program, administered by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA), provides that subject to the prior application of other grants and scholarships against the cost of county college tuition and

fees, a student who graduated in the top 20 percent of the student's high school graduating class will be eligible for a scholarship for the first year of enrollment on a full-time basis in a county college. After that student's first year of enrollment, the scholarship will be payable if, based on the student's performance in the first year of enrollment, the student was ranked in the top 20 percent of all first-time students enrolled in a full-time course of study at the county college during the student's initial year of enrollment. The student is eligible to receive a scholarship to cover the cost of tuition and fees for up to 15 credit hours in any semester at the county college. Under the law, eligible students may receive a scholarship for up to 5 semesters.

The FY 2006 recommended budget appropriates \$8 million for NJSTARS, 20 percent or \$2 million less than the FY 2005 appropriation amount of \$10 million. However, \$6.5 million of the FY 2005 appropriation amount is scheduled to lapse at the end of FY 2005. The FY 2006 recommended budget estimates that in FY 2005 the program will fund 975 students at a cost of \$2.5 million and will fund 3,000 students at a cost of \$8 million in FY 2006.

Question: Combined, the FY 2005 estimated program costs (\$2.5 million) and scheduled lapse amount (\$6.5 million) total \$9 million, \$1 million under the original FY 2005 appropriation amount. Since unexpended balances in the NJSTARS account will not carry forward to FY 2006, for what purpose will the remaining \$1 million of the FY 2005 appropriation be used? Has the NJSTARS Program impacted student enrollment patterns? If so, how? Please provide information on county college efforts to recruit students for the NJSTARS Program. On what factors is the FY 2006 estimate of 3,000 students based?

Response: The \$2.5 million FY 2005 expenditure amount in the Governor's budget was based on an estimate of total NJSTARS awards for the year as of the end of the fall semester. Once Spring award expenditures are finalized, which will include the cost of funding newly enrolled spring-term only county college students as well as awards for those NJ STARS recipients who were considered "non-funded" during the fall 2004 semester due to individual circumstances, any remaining balances in the account will be lapsed.

The NJSTARS program has increased the number of high achieving students attending the county colleges during FY 2005, even though it was implemented very late in the enrollment cycle last July. The colleges have received a number of mid-year transfers and are very actively marketing the program for academic year 2005-2006 through public outreach activities including publications, presentations, college open houses, direct mailings, to name a few. The FY 2006 estimate of 3,000 NJSTARS students is anticipated based on renewal awards and increased freshman enrollment, according to feedback on program interest received from the county colleges.

- 6. The New Jersey County College Compact was created under Executive Order No. 81 (2003). The compact, a partnership between the county colleges and the State, was initiated to fully deploy county college resources in support of the State's education, workforce and economic development priorities. Under the compact, the New Jersey Council on County Colleges (NJCCC) is directed to make recommendations on county college resources to support teacher education programs, successful career academies, workforce literacy programs, customized training programs, business attraction and development programs, homeland security training initiatives, etc. The compact requires the NJCCC to annually prepare a report on the status of the compact.
- Question: Please provide an update on the status of the compact, including recommendations for strengthening the compact.

**Response:** The New Jersey Council on County Colleges has recently completed a report on the status of the compact, including recommendations for the future. A copy of that report is provided as Attachment A.

- 7. According to the FY 2006 Budget in Brief, the Governor has recommended a \$17.8 million appropriation to fund a portion of the negotiated cost-of-living increases (COLAs) for senior public institutional personnel.
- Question: What portion of the negotiated COLAs will the \$17.8 million fund? Please provide a breakdown of how much will be allocated to each institution from this amount.

Response: The recommended appropriation of \$17.8 million in FY 2006 for salary program at the four-year public institutions would fund approximately 40% of the negotiated COLAs. This projection is based upon salary data provided by those colleges and universities. The allocation of these funds has not been determined.

- 8. New Jersey became the second state in the nation to legalize stem cell research under P.L. 2003, c.203. In FY 2005, a total of \$9.9 million (\$5.5 million appropriation plus \$4 million in unexpended FY 2004 Rutgers balances) was provided to fund the establishment of the New Jersey Stem Cell Institute. The institute will be housed in a facility to be built in New Brunswick and jointly operated by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) and Rutgers University. The FY 2006 budget recommends a \$5.5 million Grants-In-Aid appropriation for the institute, a continuation of the FY 2005 appropriation level. The Executive also recommends committing \$150 million in revenue bond funds to build the institute, and has called for a \$230 million general obligation bond issue to fund stem cell research grants. Previously, the Executive indicated that the FY 2005 appropriation of \$5.5 million would fund the recruitment of stem cell research experts and planning for the institute. The FY 2006 recommended budget also includes a total of \$324,000 to support Stem Cell Institute-related renovation efforts. The budget indicates that the funds will be equally divided between Rutgers and UMDNJ and will fund projects in Nelson Hall at Rutgers and the Research Annex building in Piscataway at UMDNJ.
- Question: Please provide specific information on how the FY 2005 funding for the institute was or will be used? Please provide an update on the efforts to recruit stem cell research experts. For what specific purpose will the renovated space at each institution be used? What is the total estimated cost of the proposed new Stem Cell Institute facility? What percentage of that total will be State-funded? What is the estimated annual State subsidy required to operate the institute?

### Response:

• The FY 2005 funding of \$9.5 million for the Stem Cell Institute will be used as start-up funds for the Institute. This includes recruiting a permanent Director and other lead researchers in an international search. It is crucial to begin these recruiting efforts now both because the competition for the best stem cell scientists is extremely fierce (given the emerging initiatives in other states we cannot wait until the building is constructed) and also so that when the new Institute building is completed we will have the initial critical mass of researchers already working. Funding also will be used to provide start-up costs and some

equipment to support the efforts of these recruits. Finally, the Stem Cell Institute will use some of these funds to begin development and implementation of a clinical trials program using stem cell research in order to bring some immediate, tangible results of stem cell research to New Jersey patients.

- The search for the permanent director for the institute has started. A director for the clinical trials activities also will be sought along with further recruitments.
- The renovated space will be used to provide immediate laboratory and support space for these recruits. Given the time required for renovation, this work must be initiated immediately in order to have the space available for anticipated arrival of the recruits. When construction of the stem cell institute is completed and the scientists occupying that space have moved, the renovated areas will be used to support continued research efforts at the two schools in related biomedical areas.
- The total estimated cost for the Stem Cell Institute facility is \$150million. This
  includes building costs and core capital equipment.
- The above capital costs are all to be state-funded but the universities will be contributing substantial salary support, additional equipment and start-up costs, administrative costs, and the like.
- The annual state support required for operations will be approximately \$6 million.

## New Jersey Community College Compact

## 2004 Annual Report



NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF COUNTY Colleges

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## **New Jersey Community College Compact**

## 2004 Annual Report

This annual report is required by Executive Order No. 81 (2003). Section nine states:

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges shall prepare an annual report on the status of this new Community College Compact, including recommendations on how this partnership between the State of New Jersey and New Jersey's community colleges can be strengthened in future years.

### **Background**

Executive Order No. 81 (2003) created the New Jersey Community College Compact in November 2003. The purpose of the Compact is to fully deploy New Jersey's community colleges in support of the state's education, workforce and economic development priorities.

Community colleges are by far the largest provider of higher education in the state, enrolling over 350,000 students each year. The colleges are a wonderful success story in New Jersey. However, prior to this past year and the creation of the Community College Compact, they were not directly connected to the state's agenda. States like North Carolina and others have for years fully engaged community colleges in their jobs creation and business attraction initiatives. New Jersey needed to do the same.

The Community College Compact is an important breakthrough for the State of New Jersey. It establishes a statewide partnership that for the first time places the statewide resources of New Jersey's community colleges squarely in support of the state's priorities.

### Successes

The unprecedented collaboration between the State of New Jersey and community colleges established by Executive Order No. 81 (2003) has led to many important statewide successes in the past year.

- New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey Working with the New Jersey Department of Education, community colleges developed New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey, an alternate route teacher certification program. Over 40 percent of the state's new teachers come through the alternate route each year. Career changers who want to become teachers can now go to their local community college for this new alternate route program. Upon successful completion of the program, individuals can earn their teaching certificates from the New Jersey Department of Education. And those who want to pursue graduate education can earn up to 15 credits toward a Master of Arts in Teaching at New Jersey City University. Over 1,000 individuals have enrolled in this program to date.
- Customized Training Working with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, community colleges created a new statewide workforce consortium to improve the delivery of customized training to businesses throughout the state. Companies with multiple sites in multiple counties can now access the statewide resources of New Jersey's 19 community colleges and 60+ campuses through this one consortium office.

- Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) Training Working with the New Jersey Department of Human Services, the community college workforce consortium delivered important new training to hundreds of social services aides and other support staff throughout the state. In less than 100 days after the first meeting with Department of Human Services staff, community colleges developed a new Certificate of Competency in Child Protective Services, trained 46 qualified instructors, and launched the first classes at over a dozen sites throughout the state.
- Apprenticeship Program Working with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the State Employment and Training Commission and union leaders, community colleges are developing a statewide model for connecting registered apprenticeships in the building and construction trades to college degree programs throughout the state. There are over 5,000 active apprentices in these trades plus thousands of recent journeymen who can earn college credits through this program.
- Business Attraction Programs Working with the New Jersey Commerce, Economic Growth, and Tourism Commission, community colleges are now directly participating in the state's business attraction programs. When state officials meet with businesses looking to move to New Jersey, community colleges are now at the table as an important part of the state's recruitment team. The colleges' training experts have already made important contributions in attracting several companies (and several hundred jobs) to the state.
- Entrepreneur Program Working with the New Jersey Small Business Development Centers throughout the state, community colleges are offering a new Entrepreneur Certificate Program to individuals who are interested in starting a small business. Small businesses account for about half of the new jobs created in New Jersey each year.

### Recommendations

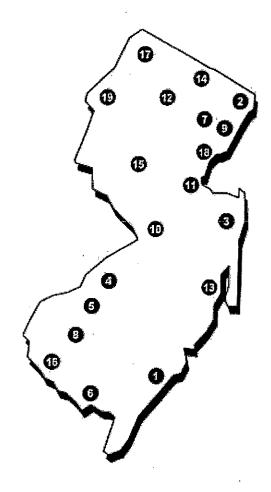
All of these successes have one important thing in common – the ability of community colleges to respond quickly to important state priorities and deliver the same high quality program at multiple sites throughout the state. Even in every county if necessary. This is why the cabinet members in the state departments noted above are finding community colleges such an attractive partner. Community colleges are problem solvers – and they know how to get things done as a statewide team in statewide ways.

It is with this potential and proven track record in mind that we offer the following recommendations for strengthening the Community College Compact in 2005.

- 1. Community colleges, through their new workforce consortium, should be the primary provider of training for New Jersey's state employees. Working in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Personnel and its Human Resources Development Institute (HRDI), the consortium can do for other state departments and state agencies what it is currently doing for the NJ Department of Human Services and others namely, provide one point of access to thousands of community college training programs delivered by thousands of faculty at over 60 campuses throughout the state.
- 2. The Community College Compact should be more broadly promoted on the state's Web site, on state department web sites, and in state publications.
- 3. Community college representatives should be reappointed to the State Employment and Training Commission and other state government organizations related to workforce and economic development.

# New Jersey's Community Colleges

- ATLANTIC CAPE COMMUNITY COLLEGE 5100 Black Horse Pike, Mays Landing, NJ 08330 2699 (609) 343 4900
- Bergen Community College 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ 07652 1595 (201) 447 7100
- BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
   765 Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, NJ 07738
   (732) 224 2000
- BURLINGTON COUNTY COLLEGE County Route 530, Pemberton, NJ 08068 (609) 894 9311
- CAMDEN COUNTY COLLEGE
   PO Box 200, Blackwood, NJ 08012
   (856) 227 7200
- CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE
   PO Box 1500, 3322 College Drive, Vineland, NJ 08362 (856) 691 8600
- ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE 303 University Avenue, Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 877 3000
- GLOUCESTER COUNTY COLLEGE 1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080 (856) 468 5000
- Hudson County Community College 25 Journal Square, Jersey City, NJ 07306 (201) 360 4001
- MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 1200 Old Trenton Road, Trenton, NJ 08690 (609) 586 4800
- MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE 2600 Woodbridge Avenue, PO Box 3050 Edison, NJ 08818 3050 (732) 548 6000
- COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS
   214 Center Grove Road, Randolph, NJ 07869 (973) 328 5000
- OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE College Drive, PO Box 2001 Toms River, NJ 08754 2001 (732) 255 0400
- PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
   One College Boulevard, Paterson, NJ 07505 (973) 684 6800



- RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PO Box 3300, Route 28 & Lamington Road North Branch, NJ 08876 (908) 526 1200
- SALEM COMMUNITY COLLEGE
   460 Hollywood Avenue, Carneys Point, NJ 08069 (856) 299 2100
- Sussex County Community College One College Hill, Newton, NJ 07860 (973) 300 2100
- UNION COUNTY COLLEGE
   1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016 (908) 709 7000
- WARREN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 475 Route 57 West, Washington, NJ 07882 4343 (908) 835 9222