CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN
TEACHING & LEARNING

Researchers’
Tea

April 7, 2016

RCC | Rockland Community College
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
Congratulations from Dr. Wood

RCC’s faculty members are renowned for their dedication to students, offering academic and moral support both inside and outside the classroom.

In addition, many members of our faculty are recognized within their fields for their scholarly expertise. We are very proud to honor our faculty members who have made important literary and research contributions to leading publications. Their achievements underscore the value that RCC places on scholarship, providing a positive example of excellence for our students and for the community.

Dr. Cliff L. Wood, President
Lynn Aaron, Professor of Computer Studies and CETL Co-director

Catherine Roche, Division Chair of Business and Professional/Public Service

Publication:

The changing landscape of higher education in the digital age led us to consider the ramifications for the intellectual property rights of academics. Current policies were examined in light of these changes.
Kristopher Baker, PhD,  
Division Chair STEM & Health Professions

Publication:  

This study was a lead up to the production of biogenic solar panels. We altered the genes of the Synechocystis in hopes of placing pieces of the photosystem in the outer membrane. The article published characterizes the Outer Membrane Vesicles (OMV) in the Synechocystis species for the first time.
David Beisel, PhD, Professor of Social Science

Publications:


- “Comments on Crossroads and the IPA,” from The Symposium Authors Reply published in Clio’s Psyche June-September 2015
Jillian K. Decker, PhD, Assistant Professor of Biology

Publication:

The study identified (1) spatial and temporal patterns in phytoplankton species abundance in the Upper Mississippi River near LaCrosse, Wisconsin and (2) the environmental factors that explain these spatiotemporal patterns. Identifying phytoplankton abundance patterns is critical for understanding water quality properties, nutrient cycling, and ecosystem processes.
Michael Francesco, Adjunct Faculty, Science

Publication:

This research focused on the history of the Peruvian immigrant community of Paterson, N.J. Analysis of data found showed the population should be estimated to be almost twice what U.S. census data was indicating. The cultural life and growth of the community over time and its interaction with other ethnic groups in Paterson was explored.
Sarah Levy, Professor, Access Services Librarian
Xi Shi, PhD, Professor of Library Services

Publication:

This article offers a practical review and evaluation of the available library discovery search tools. A comparative analysis of commercial search engines, e.g., Google, versus library search tools, e.g., Ebsco EDS, is provided.
Eric Magaram, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Publication:

Deficiencies in education continue to escalate around the world. The goal of the project is to attempt to diagnose student misconceptions of basic mathematics content and change instructional practices to undo the misconceptions by applying cognitive psychological theory.
Jeffrey McLean, PhD, Assistant Professor of Biology

Publication:
“Dengue-induced autophagy, virus replication and protection from cell death require ER stress (PERK) pathway activation” published in the journal *Cell Death and Differentiation*.

Dengue virus annually threatens 40% of the world’s population. This year, approximately 500,000 people will develop severe Dengue-related symptoms, 25,000 of which will die. Currently there are no treatment or vaccine options for those affected. My research focuses on understanding the biochemistry of Dengue infection for the main purpose of allowing anti-viral therapy development.
Diane Rosen, Adjunct Faculty, English

Publications:


This research focuses on creativity empowerment in the broadest sense: to enhance flexible ways of seeing and thinking about multivariate, fluid realities; to develop creative and critical thinking skills that strengthen one's unique engagement in any discipline; to enrich individual and ultimately cultural responses to our complex and rapidly changing world.
Christina Stern, PhD, Assistant Professor, History

Publication:

This research focuses primarily on the dynamics of women, religion, and power in Medieval and Early Modern Europe. Other articles on pedagogical topics include how to teach history in a way that aims to engage student interest and to foster reflection on the connections of the past with the present.
Elaine M. Toia, PhD, Resident Professor of English

Publication:

This paper discusses the psychological and emotional lives of women in "Pride and Prejudice" (1813) by Jane Austen and "The Portrait of a Lady" (1908) by Henry James through the later lens of Simone de Beauvoir's "The Second Sex" (1949. It addresses the challenges faced by Elizabeth Bennet in Austen's novel and by Isabel Archer in James's novel to reconcile their socially sanctioned roles as women to their human need to forge individual identity, and to stake their claims to self-directed behavior.
CETL Advisory Board

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