PRESIDENT'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 2026

ATLANTIC CAPE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

President's Message

November 2026

I am pleased to share the November 2026 highlights of Atlantic Cape Community College, which reflect the continued commitment of our community to creating meaningful, high-impact experiences for students, recognizing the outstanding contributions and professional accomplishments of our employees, and celebrating the leadership and service of our Board of Trustees. These highlights recognize the people, partnerships, and collective efforts that continue to advance our mission and strengthen our institution.

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I want to take a moment to reflect on the importance of gratitude, service, and our shared commitment to the mission of Atlantic Cape Community College. It continues to be an honor and privilege to serve as the College's president, and I remain grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such dedicated individuals who believe in the transformative power of higher education and the difference we can make in the lives of others.

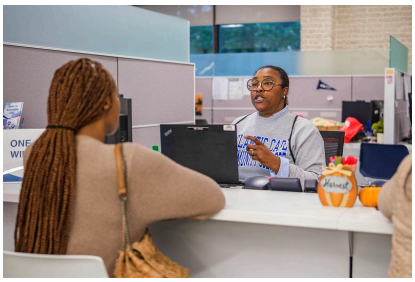
As we continue moving forward, our work remains grounded in three important priorities: student success, engagement, and operational efficiency. These are not simply institutional objectives; they represent a shared responsibility that must inform our decisions, shape our culture, and guide how we allocate our time, talent, and resources. We continue to ask ourselves how we can better serve our students, strengthen the employee experience, build meaningful partnerships, and ensure that our institution is positioned to meet the educational and workforce needs of Atlantic and Cape May counties.

Our relationships with the communities we serve remain central to our institutional identity. Atlantic Cape is an educational institution, an economic engine, a workforce development partner, a community resource, and a pathway to opportunity. The partnerships we cultivate and the relationships we strengthen will be essential as we continue positioning the College as an indispensable contributor to the vitality and prosperity of our region.

I look forward to continuing this important work together as we build upon Atlantic Cape's foundation, embrace the possibilities ahead, and remain steadfast in our commitment to transforming lives and strengthening our communities.

Jason Abreu, Ed.D.
President

Student Success and Engagement



Enrollment and Advising Initiatives

Atlantic Cape continued to leverage strategic enrollment and retention efforts to support current and prospective students. Motimatic campaigns supporting Spring 2027, Winter 2027, and Fall 2026 late-start enrollment generated more than **7,000 engagements**, resulting in **49 student enrollments**. The "On Track to Your Degree" campaign was the highest-performing initiative, emphasizing persistence and timely completion.

Recruitment activity remained strong, with **1,359 unique applicants**, **477 inquiries**, and **183 applications initiated** during the reporting period. Interest remain high in Nursing, Radiology, Health Science, Psychology, Engineering, Business, and General Studies programs.

Academic Advising continued targeted student outreach through Mainstay messaging, connecting more than **3,800 students** with critical academic information, support resources, and enrollment reminders. Pop-up advising events across all campuses expanded access to registration assistance and academic planning services, helping students remain on track toward degree completion.

Veterans and Military Families Month



Atlantic Cape proudly commemorated National Veterans and Military Families Month throughout November with events honoring veterans, active-duty service members, and military families. Programming included military flag-raising ceremonies at all three campuses, a Veterans Day recognition ceremony, veteran spotlight discussions, Operation Gratitude activities, and campus-wide card-writing campaigns expressing appreciation for military service.



In addition, Missing Man Tables were displayed throughout November at the Mays Landing, Atlantic City, and Cape May campuses to honor Prisoners of War (POWs) and those Missing in Action (MIAs), serving as a solemn reminder of their sacrifice and service to the nation.

These initiatives reinforced Atlantic Cape's ongoing commitment to supporting veterans and their families while fostering a culture of gratitude, service, and civic engagement.

First-Generation Student Celebration



The Office of Student Engagement, Student Support Services, and the Student Government Association hosted the College's **5th Annual First-Generation College Student Tailgate**, which was attended by approximately **60 students, faculty, and staff**. The event celebrated the resilience and accomplishments of first-generation students while connecting participants to resources designed to support academic success, persistence, and degree completion.

Academy of Culinary Arts

Atlantic Cape's **Academy of Culinary Arts (ACA)** celebrated its annual **Coat and Toque Ceremony**, recognizing students as they formally entered the culinary profession. During the ceremony, Culinary Arts and Baking and Pastry students received their chef coats and toques, symbolizing their commitment to the discipline, professionalism, and high standards of the culinary industry. The longstanding tradition marks an important milestone in students' academic and professional journeys while highlighting the Academy's continued excellence in culinary education and workforce preparation.



Classroom Visits



During the reporting period, Dr. Abreu visited five classrooms representing academic programs in information technology, nursing, mathematics, and English. These visits provided valuable opportunities to engage directly with students and faculty, observe instructional activities, discuss student experiences, and reinforce the College's commitment to student learning and academic excellence. The classroom visits reflect a continued focus on maintaining a visible presence in the academic environment while fostering connections across diverse instructional areas.

Presidential Recognition

Dr. Jason Abreu Recognized Among New Jersey's Top Hispanic Business Leaders



Atlantic Cape Community College President Jason Abreu was recognized by *Business in New Jersey (BINJE)* as one of its **Best Hispanic Business Leaders of 2026**. The recognition honors influential Hispanic leaders across the state who are making significant contributions within their industries and communities. In its profile, BINJE highlighted Dr. Abreu's appointment as Atlantic Cape's 10th president, his more than 20 years of leadership experience in education, and his commitment to advancing student success and institutional excellence.

Employee Highlights



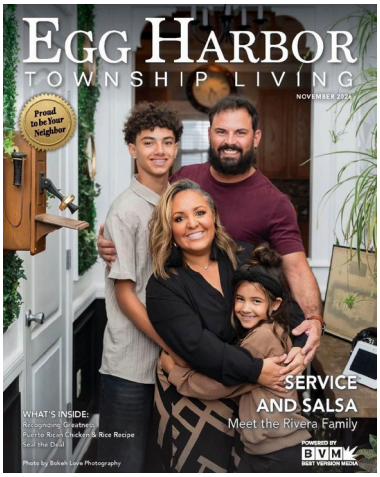
Atlantic Cape employees continued to distinguish themselves through professional leadership and service.

Dr. Natalie Devonish, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, presented at AACRAO's Strategic Enrollment Management Conference on Atlantic Cape's One-Stop Welcome Center model and its impact on student success. Dr. Devonish was also recognized as the **2026 Distinguished Stockton Alumni Honoree** by Stockton University's Council of Black Faculty and Staff.



Bryant Edmondson, MSW, Student Wellness and Success Advocate, presented at the NASPA Region II Careers in Student Affairs Conference, sharing strategies for fostering understanding and meaningful engagement with students.

Tasha Rivera, Director of One-Stop Enrollment and Recruitment, was featured on the cover of the November 2026 issue of *Egg Harbor Township Living*. The feature highlighted her commitment to service, community involvement, and family, while recognizing her leadership in supporting student enrollment, access, and success at Atlantic Cape Community College.





Janet Hauge, Director of Academic Support Services, was selected to receive the **Rhythm and Blues Preservation Society (RBPSOC) Academic Support and Student Success Award** from the Rhythm & Blues Preservation Society during its inaugural Founder's Day Honors celebration on December 18. The award recognizes her leadership, public service, and contributions to students and communities throughout Atlantic County and New Jersey. Through Atlantic Cape's Libraries and Academic Support Services, Hauge has fostered community partnerships, promoted educational access, and supported initiatives celebrating culture, literacy, and student success.

These accomplishments highlight Atlantic Cape's commitment to excellence, innovation, and leadership throughout higher education.

Trustee Spotlight

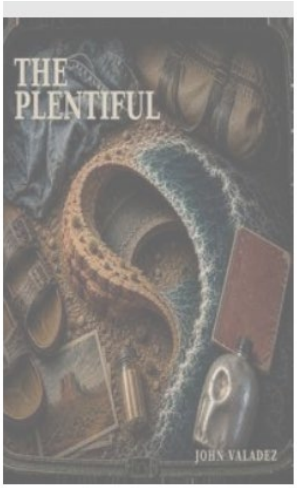


Barbara Stafford Jones Honored with Distinguished Citizens Award

Atlantic Cape Community College congratulates **Trustee Barbara Stafford Jones**, President and CEO of the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce, on being named a recipient of the **2026 Cape May County Distinguished Citizens Award** by Scouting America's Garden State Council. The award recognizes individuals whose leadership and service have made a lasting impact on Cape May County. Jones' dedication to advancing business, tourism, economic development, and community partnerships continues to strengthen the region and reflects Atlantic Cape's commitment to community engagement and student success.

Alumni Achievement

Atlantic Cape Alumnus Publishes Debut Novel



Atlantic Cape celebrates the accomplishment of **alumnus John Valadez**, whose debut novel, *The Plentiful*, was recently published. After enrolling at Atlantic Cape and discovering a renewed passion for academics through English and history coursework, Valadez transferred to the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned a degree in English and creative writing. His novel draws inspiration from personal experiences, travel, and a lifelong love of storytelling. Valadez's success highlights the transformative impact of higher education and the strong academic foundation students build at Atlantic Cape.

Employee Engagement



Buccaneer Spirit Day

Faculty and staff came together to celebrate **Buccaneer Spirit Day**, showcasing their Atlantic Cape pride through Buccaneer- and Friends-themed attire. The event featured gatherings at the Mays Landing, Atlantic City, and Cape May campuses, where employees enjoyed refreshments, prizes, and camaraderie while strengthening connections across the College community. The celebration promoted employee engagement, campus pride, and the shared spirit that defines the Atlantic Cape community.

Operational Efficiency

Student Services and Resource Accessibility

Enrollment Services facilitated FERPA workshops to approximately 20 employees throughout October and November, strengthening employee understanding of student privacy regulations and best practices in records management.

The Atlantic City Campus Food Pantry relocated to the campus library, increasing accessibility and extending availability for students seeking food assistance and support services.

Grant Awards Supporting Student Success

Atlantic Cape secured more than **$163,000 in grant funding** to expand student support services and educational opportunities. Funding awards included:

- **OSHE Hunger-Free Campus Grant ($51,103)** supporting food pantries, meal vouchers, and food distribution initiatives.
- **NJCCC Harvesting Community Grant ($6,426)** expanding fresh food distribution through community partnerships.
- **OSHE Centers for Adult Transition Grant ($105,882)** supporting services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the Center for Transition Success.

These awards strengthen Atlantic Cape's ability to address student needs while expanding opportunities for educational and workforce success.

Athletics





Atlantic Cape Athletics celebrated several notable achievements during November.

- **Women's Cross Country**: The Buccaneers delivered an outstanding performance at the **NJCAA Region 19 Championship**, with **Hannah Souder earning a second-place finish** and **Julia Dimitriou placing third**. Their strong performances qualified Atlantic Cape for a return to the **NJCAA National Championship**, continuing the program's tradition of excellence and competitive success.
- **Rainelle Blocker** earned Division III Region 19 All-Region honors and was selected as a Division III Women's Basketball Preseason All-American.
- Women's Volleyball advanced to the Region 19 playoffs after finishing fifth in the regular season standings.
- The men's and women's basketball teams opened the 2026-27 season with away contests at Brookdale Community College before hosting Camden County College in their home opener.

These accomplishments reflect the dedication, competitiveness, and success of Atlantic Cape student-athletes.

Community Outreach and Engagement



The Office of Community Outreach continued fostering meaningful community partnerships and student engagement opportunities. Highlights included:

The **Multicultural Fest**, which attracted approximately 150 participants and celebrated cultural diversity through performances, food, and educational activities. Partnership with Jewish Family Service to provide food distributions supporting students and community members experiencing food insecurity.

Participation in the Hispanic Association of Atlantic County's scholarship fundraising event. A World Kindness Day initiative encouraging gratitude, connection, and recognition among students.

These programs strengthened relationships across the region while advancing Atlantic Cape's commitment to inclusion and community engagement.

Worthington Atlantic City Campus Highlights



The Worthington Atlantic City Campus continued to provide meaningful opportunities for student engagement, support services, and community connection throughout November.

Campus programming included participation in National Veterans and Military Families Month activities, including the Veteran Spotlight program that featured student and staff veterans sharing their personal experiences and service journeys. The campus also benefited from the relocation of the Food Pantry to the library, increasing student access to resources designed to address food insecurity and support overall well-being.

Academic Advising continued providing pop-up advising and registration assistance at the campus, making support services more accessible to students preparing for Winter and Spring enrollment.

In partnership with community organizations and student services departments, the campus remained a center for educational opportunity, student support, and community engagement, strengthening Atlantic Cape's presence within Atlantic City and advancing student success throughout the region.

Cape May County Campus Highlights



The Cape May County Campus remained an active hub for student engagement, workforce development, and community programming throughout November. Highlights included:

- Hosted a **Veterans and Service Members Recognition Ceremony and Flag Raising** as part of National Veterans and Military Families Month, honoring veterans, active-duty service members, and their families.
- Celebrated **First-Generation College Student Week**, encouraging students to share their educational journeys and recognize individuals who inspired and supported their success.

- Continued the **Cape May County bizHub Seminar Series**, featuring presentations on **Organizational Planning and Leadership** as well as **Accounting and Tax Planning for Small Businesses**, supporting local entrepreneurs and business leaders.
- Welcomed prospective students and families during the **Cape May Campus Open House**, providing opportunities to meet faculty and staff, explore academic programs, and learn about enrollment and financial aid opportunities.
- Hosted a **Veterans Town Hall** featuring U.S. Senator Andy Kim, creating a forum for veterans to share experiences and discuss issues impacting the veteran community.
- Partnered with the **Cape May County Zoo Education Department** to offer educational programs, including **Littlest Explorers** and **Jr. Zookeeper**, providing hands-on learning experiences focused on wildlife, conservation, animal care, and STEM education.
- Continued offering community enrichment opportunities through the **Yoga for Arthritis** program, supporting wellness and lifelong learning.
- Recognized regional leadership and service through participation in the **2026 Women of Wonder Awards Luncheon**, honoring women making meaningful contributions to their communities.



- Supported healthcare workforce preparation through **Nursing 110 and Nursing 200 labs and simulation experiences**, providing students with valuable hands-on clinical training.



- Continued serving as a center for educational opportunity, workforce development, community engagement, and lifelong learning throughout Cape May County.

Through these efforts, the Cape May County Campus continued to serve as a resource for students, employees, businesses, and community members while advancing educational access and regional development.

Marketing and College Relations

Marketing and College Relations continued supporting enrollment growth, student engagement, and institutional visibility.

Key initiatives included:

- Expansion of the Motimatic enrollment marketing campaign.
- Completion of student focus groups informing the College's evolving brand strategy.
- Promotional support for Veterans Month activities, the President's Advisory Council, academic programming, and the Healthcare Summit.
- Continued development of the FY2026 Annual Report and Foundation Impact Report.

Research findings indicated students most frequently associate Atlantic Cape with affordability, flexibility, academic opportunity, and a welcoming environment, insights that will help shape future brand positioning and recruitment messaging.

Summary

Throughout November 2026, Atlantic Cape Community College advanced student success through enrollment growth initiatives, advising support, community outreach, veterans programming, athletic achievement, and expanded student services. Faculty and staff received significant professional recognition, new grant funding strengthened student support efforts, and both the Worthington Atlantic City Campus and Cape May County Campus continued serving as important centers of educational opportunity and community engagement. Together, these accomplishments reflect Atlantic Cape's ongoing commitment to transforming lives and strengthening the communities it serves.

President in Action

Date	Event	Engagement
10/28/2026	Cape May County Chamber of Commerce/Greater Atlantic City Chamber 2026 South Shore Summit: Casino Expansion	Attendance
10/28/2026	Meeting with Dr. Devan Blackwell, Interim Executive County Superintendent of Schools for Atlantic County and Dr. Matthew Mazzoni, Superintendent, Millville Public Schools	Connection
10/28/2026	Classroom Visit: CISM125 – Foundations of Information Technology	Connection
10/29/2026	Ribbon Cutting for U.S. Senator Andy Kim's Northfield Office	Attendance
10/29/2026	2026 Culinary Coat and Toque Ceremony	Remarks
10/29/2026	Buccaneer Madness	Participation
10/30/2026	Meeting with Michael Lucchesi, Superintendent of Buena Regional School District	Connection
11/2/2026	Classroom Visit: NURS 200 – Nursing III	Remarks
11/2/2026	Meeting with Dr. Felicia Hyman-Medley, Superintendent, Dr. Cynthia Ruiz-Cooper, Executive Director of Human Resources, and Ms. Sharon Cross, Executive Secretary of Pleasantville Public Schools.	Connection
11/3/2026	Atlantic Cape Service Member Recognition Reception and Flag Raising Ceremony	Remarks
11/3/2026	Atlantic City Councilman Shabazz Radio Show	Remarks
11/4/2026	Meeting with Dr. Devan Blackwell, Interim Executive County Superintendent of Schools for Atlantic County	Connection
11/4/2026	Meeting with James Reina, Superintendent of Greater Egg Harbor Township Schools	Connection
11/4/2026	Meeting with Christina Renna & Nicole Kuerzi of Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey	Connection
11/4/2026	Introduction Meeting to the New Jersey Space Grant Consortium	Participation
11/5/2026	Classroom Visit: ENGL-101 – English Composition	Remarks
11/5/2026	Meeting with Dr. Harvey Kesselman and Karen Alton	Connection

Date	Event	Engagement
11/5/2026	Worthington Atlantic City Campus Open House	Participation & Endorsement
11/6/2026	New Jersey Council of County Colleges President's Meeting	Participation
11/6/2026	New Jersey Council of County Colleges Education Design Lab: Cybersecurity Micro-Pathway Design Meeting	Attendance
11/6/2026	New Jersey Council of County Colleges Education Design Lab: Patient Care Technician Micro-Pathway Design	Attendance
11/9/2026	Cooper Cape Hospital Tour of Educational Spaces and Opportunities with Dr. Christine Winn and Dr. Lisa Laphan	Participation & Endorsement
11/10/2026	BINJE's Best: Top Hispanic Leaders 2026 Event at Seton Hall University	Attendance
11/10/2026	Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) Program Task Force Meeting	Participation & Endorsement
11/10/2026	English Program Advisory Board Meeting	Remarks
11/10/2026	Sprintership Program Student Dinner	Remarks
11/10/2026	Men's Basketball Home Games Vs. Camden County College	Attendance
11/11/2026	U.S. Senator Andy Kim Veterans Town Hall at the Cape May County Campus	Attendance
11/11/2026	Atlantic Cape Veterans Day Celebration	Remarks
11/11/2026	Cape May County Campus Open House	Participation & Endorsement
11/12/2026	Meeting with Dr. Devan Blackwell, Interim Executive County Superintendent of Schools for Atlantic County	Connection
11/12/2026	2026 Foundation Women of Wonder Awards at the Flanders Hotel, Ocean City, NJ	Remarks
11/12/2026	Autumn Lake Healthcare Scholarship Donation Check Presentation with Christa Fries, Regional Director of Community Integration, New Jersey Division	Participation
11/12/2026	Classroom Visit: MATH-073 – Intro to Algebra I-Prealgebra	Remarks
11/13/2026	Meet Kellie Doucette, NJ's First COO, Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey Event	Attendance
11/13/2026	Meeting with Jim Rutala, President of the Atlantic Cape Foundation	Connection

Date	Event	Engagement
11/13/2026	2026 Funding the Future of Cape May County, Cape May County Chamber Education Foundation and the Union League in Avalon, NJ	Participation & Endorsement
11/13/2026	Council of Black Faculty & Staff's 2026 Distinguished Stockton Alumni Event at the Carriage House, Galloway NJ	Attendance
11/16/2026	Grand Open of Virtua Park in Egg Harbor Township, NJ	Attendance
11/16/2026	New Jersey Council of County Colleges Meeting at Middlesex College	Participation
11/17/2026	State Affairs Committee: New Jersey's Second Legislative District Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey Event at Resorts, Atlantic City	Attendance
11/17/2026	Classroom Visit: ENGL-101 – Composition I	Remarks

MEDIA PACKET

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October 22, 2026

Atlantic Cape Students Raise Food, Housing and Transportation Concerns During Visit by New Jersey's Higher Education Secretary



College President Jason Abreu tells WOND that meeting students' basic needs is essential to their success, while announcing a November summit to strengthen South Jersey's health care workforce.

MAYS LANDING, N.J. — For students at Atlantic Cape Community College, the challenges of earning a degree often extend far beyond the classroom.

Finding affordable food, getting to campus, paying for child care and securing stable housing are among the obstacles facing students in Atlantic and Cape May counties, according to college President Dr. Jason Abreu.

Those concerns took center stage Tuesday, October 20, when New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education Margo Chaly visited Atlantic Cape's Mays Landing campus to hear directly from students, faculty and administrators.

Later that afternoon, Abreu discussed the visit and the college's priorities during an appearance on Off The Press with Scott Cronick on News Talk 1400 & 92.3 WOND. Assemblyman Don Guardian, who participated in the campus visit, was filling in as host.

"One of the challenges that we see for our students is what we refer to now in 2026 as basic needs," Abreu said.

He identified transportation, child care, food insecurity, housing and mental health support as critical concerns.

The discussion comes as New Jersey's colleges confront questions about affordability, enrollment, emerging technology and how effectively higher education prepares students for employment.

Students Get an Audience With State Education Leader

Chaly's October 20 visit was part of an 18-stop tour of New Jersey colleges and universities.

At Atlantic Cape, she met with college administrators and faculty before participating in a separate discussion with five students representing different academic programs and backgrounds.

The student meeting gave participants an opportunity to speak directly about challenges affecting their education.

Guardian said he was impressed that the college allowed students to discuss their concerns without administrators in the room.

He also noted that the students identified many of the same issues raised earlier by college leadership.

"Students raised the same issues that you had raised," Guardian told Abreu during the WOND interview.

Abreu said including students with different experiences was an important part of planning the visit.

The college wanted to hear from recent high school graduates, adult learners returning to school and students balancing education with family and financial responsibilities.

For Abreu, those perspectives are essential to understanding how the institution can better serve its community.

Food Insecurity and Transportation Among Top Concerns

One of the students who met with Chaly was Student Government Association President Jayed Hasan Sourov.

According to Atlantic Cape's account of the visit, Sourov raised concerns about access to affordable food for students who spend long days on campus.

He pointed to limited food-service hours and the difficulty some students experience obtaining meals between classes.

Transportation was another concern.

Students who depend on public transportation or have limited access to vehicles can face additional obstacles getting to class, participating in campus activities or attending required training.

Abreu said Atlantic Cape is exploring ways to help students address these challenges.

"So, what we strive to do is that as a student comes into the college, how can we meet some of those basic needs challenges that they have?" he said.

Possible approaches include student employment opportunities, subsidized bus passes and additional support services.

Abreu emphasized that addressing those needs is directly connected to academic success.

"We wouldn't want a student to be in the classroom hungry," he said.

He explained that students struggling with food insecurity may have difficulty concentrating and fully participating in their education.

Adult Learners and Working Families Face Additional Challenges

The meeting also highlighted the experiences of students returning to college after years in the workforce.

Guardian described meeting a woman who had been away from school for approximately 25 years before deciding to pursue additional education.

He said her enthusiasm illustrated the opportunities community colleges can provide to people seeking a new career or greater financial stability.

Abreu said Atlantic Cape serves students at many stages of life, including recent high school graduates, working adults and people looking to develop new skills.

Before formally beginning his presidency, Abreu said he visited approximately 35 student homes across Atlantic and Cape May counties.

Those conversations included people who had never attended college and others returning to education after decades away.

"For us at Atlantic Cape, the beauty is come as you are," Abreu said. "We are here to help you get to that finish line."

The college president said his first months in South Jersey have also included more than 100 meetings with community members, employers, school districts and other educational institutions.

State Officials Hear Concerns About Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence emerged as another major topic during Chaly's visit.

Students and faculty discussed how AI should be used in coursework and how colleges can establish appropriate expectations as the technology becomes more common in workplaces.

During the WOND interview, Guardian asked Abreu whether Atlantic Cape has a collegewide policy governing AI or leaves those decisions to individual instructors.

Abreu said faculty members currently have considerable discretion.

"Right now we leave a lot of autonomy to our faculty members," he said.

He explained that the appropriate use of AI can vary depending on the subject being taught.

Abreu said the goal is to help students understand how to use emerging technology responsibly while preserving the skills and judgment they need to develop independently.

"Artificial intelligence should be complementary to what we are teaching," he said.

The president also described the college's use of assignment-review technology, although automated similarity reports should not be treated as definitive proof of whether a student used AI.

The issue has implications beyond Atlantic Cape as colleges across the country work to balance academic integrity with preparing students for technology-driven careers.

November 20 Health Care Summit Planned

Beyond immediate student concerns, Abreu announced a significant workforce development initiative during the interview.

Atlantic Cape plans to host a regional health care summit on November 20, bringing together hospital executives, nursing leaders and other health care professionals.

The goal is to better understand South Jersey's workforce needs and identify opportunities for new or expanded educational programs.

"For us to build our capacities in healthcare, and we know that's a driving industry in South Jersey, we are inviting all hospital CEOs, chief nursing officers, chief operating officers of any healthcare sector to come to the college for a facilitated conversation on building the future of healthcare in this region," Abreu said.

He explained that the college wants to use feedback from employers to determine which programs and training opportunities would best prepare students for available jobs.

The summit could help shape future decisions about curriculum, equipment and workforce partnerships.

No specific new degree program or funding commitment was announced during the interview.

Preparing Students for South Jersey Jobs

Abreu also emphasized the college's responsibility to adapt to changing employment opportunities.

He identified health care, hospitality, aviation and tourism as important industries for Atlantic and Cape May counties.

Atlantic Cape already offers aviation-related education and training. Earlier this year, the state awarded the college $1.5 million to strengthen its air traffic controller training programs.

Abreu said community colleges should be able to respond quickly when regional employers identify new workforce needs.

"The challenges [are] making sure that we're keeping up to the workforce needs," he said.

Career preparation, he explained, extends beyond technical instruction.

Students also need communication skills, interviewing experience, résumé development and time-management skills.

Atlantic Cape provides career services and transfer opportunities for students who intend to continue their education at four-year institutions.

Facilities and Equipment Also on President's Agenda

Abreu identified campus infrastructure and instructional equipment as additional priorities.

He said students entering fields such as nursing and health care should have opportunities to learn using equipment that reflects what they will encounter in professional settings.

The president also emphasized supporting the college's employees.

Some of those priorities would require financial investment, he acknowledged, while others involve improving the overall experience of students and staff.

Abreu did not announce a specific construction project, equipment purchase or new budget allocation during the interview.

A New President's First 100 Days

Abreu became Atlantic Cape's 10th president on July 1, succeeding longtime President Dr. Barbara Gaba.

He told Guardian that one of the most encouraging aspects of his first 100 days has been the community's willingness to support the college.

The president said conversations with residents, employers, educators and local officials have reinforced his belief that Atlantic Cape can play a central role in the region's economic future.

The college serves both Atlantic and Cape May counties, with campuses in Mays Landing, Atlantic City and Cape May County.

For Guardian, who has long supported the institution, the October 20 visit reinforced the importance of ensuring that higher education remains accessible to students from different backgrounds.

For Abreu, the immediate priority is making sure students have the support they need to remain enrolled, complete their education and move into successful careers.

The discussions with Chaly provided an opportunity to bring those concerns directly to state leadership.

Whether the conversations lead to additional funding, new programs or policy changes remains to be seen.

But the message from Atlantic Cape's students and president was clear: Making college affordable involves more than tuition. It also means helping students overcome the everyday challenges that can prevent them from completing their education.

South Jersey NewsBeat will continue following Atlantic Cape's student-support initiatives, the November 20 health care summit and any statewide policy developments resulting from Secretary Chaly's campus tour.

Peter Killeen

About the Author

A 25-year radio news veteran, Peter covers South Jersey for NewsTalk 1400 & 92.3 WOND radio. Known for his concise and impactful delivery, he ensures listeners and readers stay informed without unnecessary filler.

https://southjerseynewsbeat.com/posts/atlantic-cape-students-raise-food-housing-and-transportation-concerns-during-visit-by-new-jerseys-higher-education-secretary

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- n/a Estimated views
- n/a Potential reach
- $n/a Estimated media value

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

October 22, 2026

Cape May County bizHub director honored with veteran business award



Atlantic Cape Community College

MAYS LANDING – Christopher Stenger, director of the Cape May County bizHub located at Atlantic Cape Community College's Cape May County campus, was presented with the 2026 Military Veteran Leadership in Business Award during the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce's 82nd Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner on October 21 at the Wildwoods Convention Center.

This award recognizes veterans of the United States military who own or work in a Cape May County business while demonstrating leadership in the community. This award also recognizes military veterans who continue to exemplify the values of service, integrity, commitment and dedication to others. The nominee must have served in a branch of the armed forces, including active duty, reserves or National Guard.

Stenger was honored and humbled to receive this recognition from the Chamber of Commerce.

"I'm honored to receive this award from the Cape May County Chamber. It is a direct reflection of the fantastic team we have here at Atlantic Cape Community College. Working to make Cape May County better in education and business has truly been a team effort. It was a pleasure to have my wife, Ashley, with me, along with Krista McConnell, Jean McAlister, and Chris Mularz, to share in this recognition, because I wouldn't be able to do what I do without all of them.

"Over the last four years, we have worked hard to build this space and its reputation as a place where business dreams, big and small, can take shape and where Cape May County residents can begin, continue, and accelerate their business journeys. I am truly fortunate to work in a position that allows me to help people in my own

community, and I enjoy the rewards of every one-on-one conversation that helps make Cape May County business dreams a reality."

Chamber President Barbara Stafford Jones, in a letter to Stenger announcing his selection for this award, commended him for his dedication, leadership and service to the Cape May County business community.

"Through your leadership of bizHub in Cape May County you have brought these qualities directly into our business community. Your commitment to helping entrepreneurs and businesses connect with resources, navigate challenges, and find opportunities to grow has made you an important partner in strengthening Cape May County's economy.

"Your military service and your continued commitment to serving others through your professional leadership make this recognition especially fitting. You have taken the principles of leadership and service and carried them forward into the work you do every day on behalf of our businesses and our community.

"What makes this recognition even more special is that you were selected by our Chamber membership. It is a wonderful reflection of the respect you have earned and the impact you are making throughout Cape May County."

McConnell, Atlantic Cape's Cape May County campus director, echoed Stafford Jones' sentiments.

"We could not be prouder of our very own Chris Stenger for receiving the Veteran in Business Award from the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce. As director of the Cape May County bizHub, Chris is dedicated to our community. He works hard every day to support and empower our local small business community. His commitment to helping others succeed makes a real difference in Cape May County. Thank you, Chris, for your service to our country and for your continued dedication to our community," said McConnell.

Also, during the event, Atlantic Cape Foundation Vice President Terry Budd was presented with the Foundation Service & Dedication Award for her work on the Chamber's Education Foundation.

"On the Foundation Board, we know how Terry always goes above and beyond in her work as a vice chairperson of the executive board, while also co-leading the Restaurant Gala and volunteering at the Annual Scramble FORE Scholarships Golf Tournament. Congratulations to one of Atlantic Cape's Distinguished Alumni and my friend, Terry Budd, for her recognition of unwavering service supporting scholarships for the next generation," said Foundation Executive Director Jean McAlister.

The Cape May County bizHub is funded in part through a grant with the United States Small Business Administration and in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture, New Jersey Economic Development Authority, Crest Savings Bank, Cape May Chamber of Commerce and Atlantic Cape Community College.

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/news/community/article_d6147f3a-d78f-59dd-b472-7109ce49b369.html

https://shorelocalnews.com/cape-may-county-bizhub-director-christopher-stenger-receives-military-veteran-leadership-in-business-award/

Topline Impact:

- 743 Estimated views
- 122,500 Potential reach
- $1,100 Estimated media value

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

October 23, 2026

Higher education secretary visits Atlantic Cape Community College



DAN GROTE

Staff Writer

MAYS LANDING — New Jersey Higher Education Secretary Margo Chaly visited Atlantic Cape Community College on Tuesday, speaking with students and administrators as part of a statewide tour of colleges and universities.

After meeting with school officials and Assemblyman Don Guardian, R-Atlantic, Chaly talked with five Atlantic Cape students about their personal experiences, their challenges and concerns, and their career aspirations, according to a news release from the school.

Chaly said she has heard a familiar theme from many students during her statewide visits.

"Students consistently raise the issues of affordability, wraparound services on campus, making sure they and their classmates have access to food pantries, mental health support, transportation, and everyone at every level is looking for some clarity on AI," she said. "We're happy to continue to engage with the students to develop real guidelines and practices that we can implement statewide."

Student Government Association President Jayed Hasan Sourov prepared for Chaly's visit by speaking with numerous students about the issues that are important to them, according to the school.

"The first issue is food affordability," Sourov said. "Our students need affordable food options while they are on campus and have long classes. Since our cafeteria closes at 2 and our food pantry closes at 5, there should be a way for students to actually have affordable meal options when they have a long day on campus. Transportation is also important."

Said Cape May County resident Braxton Jeter: "I was able to advocate on behalf of students here at Atlantic Cape who have children, as well as those students who are in the aviation program, and also those students who want to be a leader. The 30 or more students I was able to advocate for are going through the same thing that I'm going through right now."

Jada Dixon, a biomedical science major from Mays Landing, advocated for the college's international students.

"The secretary really listened, and she did say that they will try their best to put in a word for us," Dixon said.

Murphy Phillips, an English major from Estell Manor, represented students from the humanities and English departments.

"I liked how well the secretary listened to me about the issues I had," Phillips said. "The biggest issue we spoke about was the usage of AI on campuses. She was very receptive to what I had to say."

Chaly said she was impressed by the students' maturity, knowledge and sophistication.

"What I've learned directly from these student roundtables, and what I can take back to Trenton, is to work on statewide policies that support their success, to champion them, make sure they have the resources they need to persist, and ultimately graduate from Atlantic Cape and any other college or university they're attending here in New Jersey," Chaly said.

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/article_92ace8c6-70f1-55ec-9de9-caf121653c69.html

https://article.wn.com/view/2026/10/23/Higher_education_secretary_visits_Atlantic_Cape_Community_Co/

Topline Impact:

- n/a Estimated views
- 94,100 Potential reach
- $870.50 Estimated media value

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

October 23, 2026

Atlantic Cape marks veterans and military families month



Atlantic Cape Community College

MAYS LANDING – Throughout the month of November, Atlantic Cape Community College will commemorate the bravery, courage and dedication of the nation's military veterans with numerous free and open-to-the-public events at each of the college's campuses to recognize National Veterans and Military Families Month.

The monthlong schedule of events begins on Tuesday, November 3, at 11:30 a.m. with a Veterans and Service Members Recognition kickoff ceremony at the Mays Landing, Atlantic City and Cape May campuses. Light refreshments will be provided prior to the ceremony, which will raise a flag representing all branches of the United States military.

At the Mays Landing campus on Wednesday, November 11, a Veterans Day ceremony, presented by the Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs departments, will honor veterans and active-duty service members at 12:30 p.m. in the Student Center G Building lobby.

Atlantic Cape's veteran students and staff members will be recognized on Wednesday, November 18, during a Veteran Spotlight event presented by the Student Engagement Department from noon to 2 p.m. at the Atlantic City campus cafeteria. Each veteran will share their personal stories and military service experiences with those in attendance.

Throughout the month of November, each of the college's three campuses will host Operation Gratitude and Thank a Veteran Card Making. Those interested will be able to thank those who served by writing a personal

message of gratitude to a veteran. Each card and letter created will be delivered to local veterans organizations or to Operation Gratitude. This event is presented by the Student Engagement Department.

Each campus will also host a Fallen Comrade Table Display in honor of veteran service members who were prisoners of war (POWs) or remain missing in action (MIAs). A selected reading and veterans resource guide, presented by the Atlantic Cape Libraries and Tutoring Department, will feature a display of selected books highlighting veterans, each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces and the conflicts that shaped the nation's history. A digital resource guide, which includes e-books, articles, local and community resources, is available online at library.atlanticcape.edu/dei/veteran.

Community members may also honor a veteran's service and sacrifice by sponsoring a remembrance wreath in memory of a loved one through "Wreaths Across America." The Atlantic Cape Foundation will receive $5 from the purchase of each wreath to help support initiatives for veterans and current students serving in the armed forces. Wreaths are $17 and may be ordered online at bit.ly/4yzyPiL. A wreath-laying ceremony will be held on December 19 at Holy Cross Cemetery & Mausoleum, 5061 Harding Highway, Mays Landing, NJ 08330.

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/news/community/article_0e056dfe-ddeb-5053-8255-a1251d42a054.html

https://breakingac.com/community/accc-plans-month-of-events-to-honor-veterans/

https://shorelocalnews.com/atlantic-cape-to-commemorate-national-veterans-and-military-families-month-with-public-events/

Topline Impact:

- 743 Estimated views
- 126,000 Potential reach
- $1,132.60 Estimated media value

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

October 29, 2026

Atlantic Cape staff honored with NAACP and AI-ready awards



Atlantic Cape Community College

MAYS LANDING – Recently, several Atlantic Cape Community College employees were recognized for their acts of dedication and service to community, and for their leadership in advancing teaching and learning at the community college level.

Atlantic Cape is proud to congratulate Stephanie Davies (Bashira Khan), supervisor of custodial and building services operations, for receiving the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Mainland/Pleasantville branch's GrassRoots/Community Service Award for her continued leadership in the community.

Davies, who has been employed at the college for 11 years, accepted the award during the 2026 Freedom Fund event at the Claridge Hotel in Atlantic City on October 24. She was accompanied by her father and daughter, as well as several coworkers.

"I am deeply honored by this recognition from the NAACP. My commitment to family and community drives the work I do. I believe collaboration is currency, and this award reflects the power of people coming together with intention to make a difference," said Davies.

In a letter to Davies announcing her nomination, local NAACP branch President Olivia C. Caldwell applauded Davies for her "commitment to mentorship, service and community uplift, which continues to inspire all who have witnessed your dedication. Your acceptance affirms the values we (NAACP) strive to uphold – leadership, advocacy and a steadfast devotion to the advancement of our community."

Faculty receive AI-ready mini-grant awards

Seven Atlantic Cape professors received $1,000 stipends from the New Jersey Council of County Colleges this past June and September, respectively, as part of its AI-Ready Faculty Mini-Grant Initiative to assist in developing innovative pedagogical techniques toward implementing artificial intelligence into the college's teaching and learning.

Assistant Professor of English Regina Betz-Madge, Associate Professor of Sociology Caroline Coulter, Assistant Professor of Business and Esports Michele Togashi, and Professor of CISM Dr. Bojan Zilovic were awarded their stipends in June. Senior Adjunct, Information Systems and Aviation Studies Edward Burns, Professor of ISAS Svetlana Marzelli and Assistant Professor of Nursing Christina Shannon were awarded their stipends in September.

"I congratulate our faculty members who were selected for these awards who invested their time and creativity in developing proposals. These efforts reflect our commitment to advancing teaching and learning, promoting responsible AI literacy and preparing our students for an evolving workforce. I appreciate the NJCCC and the NJ AI Hub for supporting faculty innovation and creating opportunities to share best practices across New Jersey's community colleges," said Atlantic Cape President Dr. Jason Abreu.

Across the state of New Jersey, more than 130 applications were received for the 100 available awards. The review committee selected 40 faculty projects during the first round in June and 60 during the second round in September. Recipients of the awards will contribute detailed information about their respective projects while also sharing instructional materials that aid all faculty members throughout the state.

This initiative is part of a partnership between the NJCCC and the New Jersey AI Hub, which is supported by funding from the hub's corporate partnership with Microsoft.

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/news/community/article_6e3de166-863a-5345-b9bc-1307af92a98f.html

https://breakingac.com/education/naacp-honors-atlantic-city-woman-for-mentorship-service-to-community/

Topline Impact:

- 743 Estimated views
- 126,000 Potential reach
- $1,988.30 Estimated media value

BreakingAC.com
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THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

October 31, 2026

Academy of Culinary Arts students receive coats and toques



Atlantic Cape Community College

MAYS LANDING – Atlantic Cape Community College's Academy of Culinary Arts (ACA) recognized 41 second-year students for completing their first year of studies and presented them with their official coats and toques at the 5th Annual Coat and Toque Ceremony on October 29 in the Walter E. Edge Theater on the Mays Landing campus.

The ACA began the Coat and Toque ceremony in 2022 as a way to honor students who have successfully completed their first year of culinary studies. The traditional embroidered white chef's coat and toque are credited to acclaimed early 19th century French chef Marie-Antoine Carême, who was known in the industry as the "king of chefs and the chef of kings." Carême sought to create a distinctive uniform for the culinary profession and he chose the color white to symbolize cleanliness.

Atlantic Cape President Dr. Jason Abreu acknowledged the support that the students' families – from parents and grandparents to aunts, uncles and friends – have provided throughout their lives and academic journey at the ACA. Abreu also recognized the commitment and dedication of the ACA's chef educators in helping cultivate the next generation of culinary and baking and pastry professionals, as well as the students themselves for their hard work.

"I know this journey takes a lot of commitment, hard work and perseverance. You are here as a testament to what dedication and commitment look like. I see you in the hallways; I see you as the first ones on campus; I see you working at Carême's and I see you all the time doing everything possible to make this journey for your future. I congratulate you," said Dr. Abreu.

Following a passion that began when she was a child, sophomore culinary/hot foods major Maria Fiocco, a Forked River, N.J., Ocean County resident and Lacey Township High School graduate, spoke of how she first became interested in cooking.

“I was always helping my dad prep in the kitchen. I was always like, ‘Oh, can I help?’ I originally saw it more so as a bonding moment with my parents when I cooked with them. I really didn't care for cooking then, but then when I got older, I realized I really like this,” said Fiocco, who was joined by her mother, Kathy, and father, Rich.

Maria, who works for Seafood Treasures in Lacey Township cutting fish and selling oysters, clams and mussels, is excited to have reached this milestone in her culinary education.

“It's an honor to be here and be able to receive this for putting in the hard work. I’m excited to get out to the work field. I am still trying to decide what my dream profession may be, but I am thinking of maybe becoming a private chef.”

Sophomore culinary/hot foods major and Millville resident Edward Dover experimented as a child with myriad dishes in his mother Crystal’s kitchen. Today, along with working towards completing his ACA studies, Edward works at the Old Oar House in Millville as line chef and head chef. His goal is to eventually become a head chef at a casino.

Chef Joseph Sheridan, director of the ACA and Hospitality, spoke of the importance and history of the chef’s coat and toque, and why each student should wear them both with pride.

“The chef’s toque has long been a symbol of the culinary profession and has a history that dates back to the 16th century. It is said that the toque’s height represented rank in the kitchen, with the taller hats worn by higher-ranking chefs. The pleats represented a chef's level of expertise, symbolizing the number of ways a chef could prepare an egg.

“We hope you will wear them (coat and toque) proudly. The crisp new jacket and white toque will distinguish you as a professional and with that recognition comes responsibility. Your uniform will now set you apart from your peers here at the academy; signifying you as someone with some experience. It is our hope that you will hold yourself to a higher standard and aspire to be a role model for your fellow students.”

Students honored

Students who received their second-year chef’s coat and toque were:

Baking and pastry

Crystal Alvarez, Pleasantville; Shaina Deaton, Cape May; Sebastian Campos, Hammonton; Janae Carrington, Egg Harbor Township; Mauricio Chang, Mays Landing; Isabelle Cheeseman, Egg Harbor Township; Jayani Cortes, Egg Harbor Township; Grecia Cortes-Perez, Atlantic City; Madison Fitch, Egg Harbor Township; Caitlyn Galletta, Hammonton; Sophia Garcia, Millville; Destiny Mack, Atlantic City; Bella Marchesani, Wenonah; Aidaeliz Ortiz, Northfield; Gabrielle Ruberti, Richland; and Nathan Sbrolla, Egg Harbor Township.

Culinary arts

Anthony Alexander, Mays Landing; Jenahliz Aviles, Vineland; Kaden Boyd, Egg Harbor Township; Emily Buczynski, Milmay; Salvatore Campione, Hammonton; Julian Contreras-Rodriguez, Shiloh; Brendan Cueva, Turnersville; Ibn F. Davis, Galloway; Nathan Dominiano, Cherry Hill; Edward Dover, Millville; Maria Fiocco, Forked River; Niylah Glenn, Pleasantville; Jasmine Gonzalez Alegria, Egg Harbor Township; Kiana Harris, Bridgeton; Kimora Harrison, Atlantic City; Jocelyn Martin, West Deptford; Charlene McClain, Bridgeton; Emalie Menegus, Barnegat; Johnny Morales,

Williamstown; Daniel Sawaqedy, Northfield; Nathan Smith, Cape May; Ryan Somers, Berlin; Nevaeh Thomas, Galloway; and Julisa Trader, Atlantic City.

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/news/community/article_3bc1cf76-4018-56e8-bbeb-80c460a4a72a.html

https://shorelocalnews.com/second-year-academy-of-culinary-arts-students-receive-official-coat-and-toque-at-5th-annual-ceremony/

Topline Impact:

- 743 Estimated views
- 142,900 Potential reach
- $1,288.30 Estimated media value

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

October 31, 2026

President's Advisory Council holds first meeting to gather employee feedback



Atlantic Cape Community College

MAYS LANDING – Seeking to strengthen communication, collaboration and shared governance throughout Atlantic Cape Community College's three campuses, Dr. Jason Abreu, the 10th president in the college's 62-year history, recently established the President's Advisory Council for the 2026-27 academic year.

The council, which is comprised of faculty members and staff representatives from various departments across the college, met for its initial meeting on October 26 at the Mays Landing campus to provide feedback, share individual perspectives, and discuss institutional opportunities and challenges.

"Being new to this role, the community, and the college, I see the President's Advisory Council as an important opportunity to listen to a diverse group of individuals who bring a range of experiences and perspectives to Atlantic Cape. Through these conversations, we can identify key themes, explore opportunities for growth, and gather meaningful feedback that will help inform the college's priorities, strengthen our direction, and support the continued success of our students and the institution," said Dr. Abreu.

A wide range of topics emanated from the roundtable discussion including generating additional revenue, student enrollment and retention, artificial intelligence, community partnerships, course delivery and modality, strategic planning and more.

Many agreed that the college's strengths come from the dedicated individuals, both faculty and staff, who work at the institution's three campuses in Mays Landing, Atlantic City and Cape May Court House. Atlantic Cape's

employees are committed to making a positive difference in the lives of each and every student by ensuring that their experiences are personalized and geared towards helping them achieve their goal of graduating with an associate degree.

Through regular meetings, the council will serve as a collaborative forum for dialogue, innovation, and employee engagement, ensuring that diverse voices help inform institutional priorities and support Atlantic Cape's continued growth and success.

President's Advisory Council members

Otto Hernandez, department chairman, Business, Information Systems and Aviation

Michelle Perkins, director, Instructional Technology

Janice Burg-Levi, senior adjunct, English

Raymond Keller, assistant professor, Science

Dr. Gwen Setley, director, Academic Program Effectiveness

Kevin Coopersmith, acting director, Early College & Transition Programs

Doug Mills, manager, Conferences, Events & Contracts

Shane Ritchie, Cape May County Campus operations manager

Nicole Thompson, media and advertising manager

Sondra Ritondo, budget analyst

Luis Montefusco, senior director of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Planning

Jessica Reynolds, assistant director, Center for Accessibility

Alonna Brown, director, EOF Program and assistant director of the Center for Student Success

Zach Johnson, student service navigator, Center for Student Success

Sha Patel, manager, Campus Operations and Community Outreach, Worthington Atlantic City Campus

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/news/community/article_c34801fd-e682-58c8-bf99-71531ec35a64.html

Topline Impact:

- 743 Estimated views
- 122,500 Potential reach
- $1,100 Estimated media value

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

November 2, 2026

Atlantic Cape men’s basketball targets Region 19 title



Atlantic Cape Community College

MAYS LANDING – A sense of renewed excitement is in the air as the Atlantic Cape Community College Buccaneers men's basketball team prepares for the 2026–27 season. Head Coach Allen Ragland is welcoming a talented mix of returning student-athletes, healthy newcomers and promising transfers as the Bucs look to bounce back from a disappointing 2025–26 campaign.

A rash of injuries plagued the Buccaneers last season, decimating the roster and causing the team to fall well short of expectations. Ragland believes this year’s team has the talent, depth and determination to make a serious run at the NJCAA Region 19 championship.

"Last season, injuries hurt us before we even got started, but at the end of the day, it starts and ends with the coaching. We didn't have the season we expected, and nobody takes that harder than I do,” said Ragland.

Now, with several key players returning and an incoming class featuring promising Division I prospects, the Buccaneers are preparing to return to the aggressive, up-tempo style that Ragland has built his coaching philosophy around.

"We're definitely back. We're longer, more athletic and more versatile, but talent doesn't win championships by itself. We have to defend, rebound, play unselfish basketball and understand what it takes to win,” said Ragland.

Returning veterans ready to lead

Amin Hines (6'4", sophomore, Willingboro, NJ) returns in better physical condition with improved quickness, ball-handling and confidence. Ragland plans to use Hines as a combo guard and believes he has the potential to play Division I basketball.

"Amin has worked extremely hard. He's faster, his handle is better, and I'm seeing a different level of focus. I need him to lead on and off the court."

Carlos Rodriguez (6'3", sophomore, Scarsdale, NY) is expected to be one of the Buccaneers' primary offensive weapons. Limited to 13 games last season because of injuries, Rodriguez returns healthy and in outstanding condition.

"Carlos is as tough as they come. He's a competitor who doesn't back down from anybody. His scoring, defense and leadership will be huge for us this season."

Jaleel Clark (6'0", sophomore, Atlantic City, NJ) could emerge as one of Region 19's most exciting guards. A standout at the summer JUCO All-American Showcase, Clark brings relentless defensive pressure and the ability to disrupt opposing backcourts.

"Jaleel has a chance to be special. He's a lockdown defender, and I believe he can be a major factor in bringing a Region 19 championship to Atlantic Cape."

Quinn Baumann (6'4", sophomore, Australia) returns after spending his freshman season adjusting to American basketball. His rebounding, defensive versatility and willingness to embrace his role should provide valuable depth.

"Quinn understands the game better now. He gives us someone who will compete, rebound and defend multiple positions."

Two healthy freshmen could change everything

Two players who missed the entire 2025–26 season could become major difference-makers.

Xavier Lewis (6'2", freshman, Atlanta, GA) returns following extensive rehabilitation from a serious knee injury. Lewis possesses explosive athleticism, defensive instincts and the ability to make plays above the rim.

"Xavier is a program changer. His athleticism is at another level. He can defend, attack the basket and make plays that most players at this level cannot make. Division I coaches are waiting to see him play. Remember his name."

Faik "Efe" Ozdemir (6'7", freshman, Istanbul, Turkey) adds size, perimeter shooting and versatility. Ozdemir can stretch the floor, handle the basketball, pass and score in the post.

"Efe is sneaky good. People see his size and think he's just an inside player, but he can shoot the three, pass and put the ball on the floor. He's another Division I prospect."

Incoming class adds size, toughness and athleticism

Cameron Brown (6'6", freshman, Riverside, NJ) is a versatile wing capable of initiating the break, shooting from the perimeter and creating opportunities for teammates.

"Cam is a sleeper. I still can't believe he wasn't considered one of New Jersey's top players. He has a complete game and tremendous upside."

Kayembe "Mitch" Tshibangu (6'7", freshman, Dallas, TX) arrives with an impressive combination of length, athleticism and offensive potential.

"I tell people I stole Mitch from the Texas and Oklahoma junior colleges. He's 6-foot-7, can handle the ball, shoot and dunk on you. His upside is unbelievable."

Kameron Jackson (6'4", freshman, Detroit, MI) transfers from Mott Community College and brings physical toughness, perimeter shooting and defensive intensity.

"Kam brings that Detroit toughness. He can defend, knock down shots and get to the free-throw line. As his ball-handling develops, he has Division I potential."

Giancarlo Canayunan (5'8", freshman, Atlantic City, NJ) will provide speed, shooting and defensive energy off the bench.

"Giancarlo is our spark plug. He's quick, fearless and gets after you on both ends of the floor."

Jahiere Walker (6'0", sophomore, Pleasantville, NJ) transferred into the program last season but did not compete. Walker has the ability to score in bunches and could become an important contributor.

"Jahiere has all the tools. Once he locks in and understands his potential, he can be a major factor for us."

Tyler Holmes (6'8", freshman, Winslow Township, NJ) brings much-needed size and rebounding potential to the frontcourt.

"Tyler is getting better every day. By midseason, I believe he can become very difficult to keep off the floor."

Yasir Fowler (6'4", sophomore, Willingboro, NJ) will become eligible in January after transferring from Camden County College. His Region 19 experience, shooting and maturity should provide a valuable midseason boost.

"Yasir knows how to move without the basketball, he can shoot it and he understands this region. He brings maturity to our young team."

A return to Atlantic Cape's defensive identity

Although the Buccaneers will miss the interior presence of graduates Olyn Knox and Logan Sparks, Ragland believes this season's roster is better equipped to play the aggressive brand of basketball he prefers.

With multiple ball handlers, athletic wings and versatile frontcourt players, Atlantic Cape expects to increase its defensive pressure, attack in transition and create scoring opportunities through its defense.

"We have more scoring options, but everybody has to understand that winning comes first," said Ragland. "We have to share the basketball, defend for 40 minutes and control the glass. We want opponents to feel our pressure every possession."

For Ragland, whose coaching career has focused on player development and helping student-athletes advance to four-year institutions, the season also presents another opportunity to prepare young men for the next level.

"Having Division I talent and being a Division I player are two different things. You have to be coachable, be able to defend, handle adversity, take care of your academics and understand how to win. That's what we're teaching here."

Unfinished business

The Buccaneers enter the season with renewed expectations, but Ragland understands that talent alone will not determine their success. Health, leadership, discipline and unselfish basketball will be the deciding factors.

"I've been coaching a long time, and this game will always teach you humility," said Ragland. "Last year humbled me, but it didn't take away my love for coaching or my belief in these young men. I'm excited about what we have, and I want to see just how good this team can become."

And when asked about his expectations for 2026–27, Ragland leaves little doubt about the program's ambitions.

"We're not interested in talking about how talented we are. I want us to show it every time we step on the floor. We have unfinished business. Our goal is to bring that Region 19 championship home to Atlantic Cape."

The Buccaneers open their 2026–27 season November 3, 7 p.m. at Brookdale Community College. The squad's home opener will be held November 10, 7 p.m. vs. Camden County College. Visit atlanticcape.edu/mensbasketball for schedule, results, coaches and roster information.

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/sports/community/article_56436190-b0ca-5479-8ec9-472cfa947067.html

https://shorelocalnews.com/atlantic-cape-buccaneers-mens-basketball-team-eyes-region-19-championship-run-in-2026-27/

Topline Impact:

- 743 Estimated views
- 122,500 Potential reach
- $1,100 Estimated media value

EUROPE SAYS

November 4, 2026

Atlantic Cape Community College Golf Tournament Hits $1M Fundraising Mark



The 22nd annual Scramble 'FORE' Scholarships Golf Tournament took place Oct. 2 at Cape May National Golf Club.

According to Atlantic Cape Community College, the fundraiser has generated more than $1 million for student scholarships since its debut in 2004, with contributions from businesses and residents across Atlantic and Cape May counties.

The tournament has received continued support from the Mullock family, which has hosted the event at Cape May National Golf Club throughout its 22-year history.

Per the college, Chief of Staff and Foundation Executive Director Jean McAlister said: "Our golfers keep coming back year after year and we are just thrilled to reach the $1 million mark. That means a lot because 100% of those funds go to the students. That's a million dollars in scholarships to students in the last 22 years just from this one event."

The college also recognized Atlantic City-based Cooper Levenson, Attorneys at Law, for its longstanding support of the tournament and students. Ken Calemmo, the firm's chief operating officer and first vice president of the Atlantic Cape Foundation Board of Trustees, accepted the award.

For a photo gallery from this year's event, click here.

Click here to follow Daily Voice and receive free news updates.

https://www.europesays.com/golf/87555/

https://dailyvoice.com/article/atlantic-cape-community-college-golf-tournament-hits-1m-fundraising-mark/

Topline Impact:

- 61,800 Estimated views
- 1,756,600 Potential reach
- $16,023.40 Estimated media value

DAILY VOICE

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

November 10, 2026

Atlantic Cape women's basketball aims for playoff return in 2026-27



Atlantic Cape Community College

MAYS LANDING – Fresh off of a trip to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region 19 playoffs semifinals last season, the Atlantic Cape Community College Buccaneers women's basketball team enters a rebuilding season in 2026-27 with returning Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Player of the Year Rainelle Blocker leading the way.

The Buccaneers finished the 2025-26 season with a 15-8 overall record and defeated the Community College of Philadelphia, 69-58, in the quarterfinals before falling to Passaic County Community College in the semis. It was a momentous season which saw Blocker also earn All-GSAC First Team and All-Region 19 First Team honors. Fellow teammate Angelina Bell was named to the All-GSAC Second Team in her final season as Buccaneer.

"Last season was a tremendous success and arguably one of the best seasons in Atlantic Cape women's basketball history. We tied for the best record in the conference and fell just two wins short of bringing the championship back to Atlantic Cape. It was a special season for our program, and I'm proud of what we accomplished," said Head Coach Ricky White, Jr., who enters his second season at the helm.

The 2026-27 season is a year of change for the Buccaneers after the departures of six student-athletes to graduation - Bell, Millinda Marigliano, Allison Giraldo, Lanique Brice, Alexandra Montoya and Samantha Cosme.

"I'm excited about this season. Last year was my first as head coach and I learned a lot through that experience. This season, I plan to take what I learned, correct some of the areas where we struggled and continue building a successful women's basketball program," said White, Jr.

Coming off of her dominant freshman season, Blocker (Clayton, NJ) will be counted upon to lead this young team on offense and defense through the grind of the NJCAA season. Last season, she averaged 25 points, 11 rebounds and four assists per game while also finishing second in the nation as a freshman in points and steals.

“Rainelle is our leader and the backbone of this team. Her performance and effort will set the standard for everyone else. I expect Rainelle to continue the dominance she displayed last season. Her leadership and work ethic will be important to our success. When she sets the tone and plays hard, the rest of the team follows her lead. With the attention she will receive this season, it will be important for the other players to step up and make their own contributions,” said White, Jr.

Two additional returning sophomores – Carol Taina McLaurin and Laziah Wilson – will provide experience and poise for a team that features grit, toughness and competitive spirit. McLaurin (Absecon, NJ) will be expected to be a key defensive leader while Wilson (Egg Harbor Township, NJ), a former standout volleyball student-athlete who has transitioned well into basketball, brings rebounding prowess, athleticism and toughness to the court.

The team’s remaining depth will come from three freshmen student-athletes – Aminah Mullins, Shayna Ramos and Kimberly Torres – who are ready to experience the increased pace and demands of the college basketball game.

Mullins (Pleasantville, NJ) has the ability to stretch the floor with her shooting while also creating scoring chances by driving to the basket. White, Jr. believes Mullins’ offensive versatility will make a positive impact on the team.

Ramos (Egg Harbor Township, NJ) is a tough and competitive player, according to White, Jr., who will be looked upon to make an impact to the team’s success. Torres (Atlantic City, NJ) is a point guard with the ability to control the pace of the on-court game while contributing at both ends of the court. White, Jr. will look to her for leadership and management of the team’s offensive game this season.

“Our goal is to make a deep playoff run this season, but most importantly, I want us to finish the season healthy. I want this team to set the tone from the opening game through the playoffs. We must play hard, compete for every possession and believe in one another. If we do that, we will have an opportunity to make history,” said White, Jr. “I'm looking forward to seeing this team grow, compete, and represent Atlantic Cape with pride. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but our goal is clear: play hard, stay together, and make history.”

The Buccaneers, who opened its season on November 3 with a 60-45 loss to Brookdale Community College and a 65-47 defeat to Rowan College of South Jersey, will play its first home game of the new season on November 10 against Camden County College.

Visit atlanticcape.edu/womensbasketball for schedule, results, roster and coaches’ information.

https://pressofatlanticcity.com/sports/community/article_c19d66f0-750d-571c-8721-f72fa108047e.html

https://breakingac.com/atlantic-county/rebuilding-accc-womens-basketball-team-ready-for-first-home-game/

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Jason Abreu, President, Atlantic Cape Community College

Jason Abreu became Atlantic Cape Community College's 10th president on July 1. A first-generation college graduate, he has more than 20 years of leadership experience in education, including more than 15 in senior higher education administration. He previously served as vice president of student affairs at Tarrant County College's Trinity River Campus in Fort Worth, Texas, and held leadership roles at Furman University and Miami Dade College. He holds a doctorate from Nova Southeastern University.