

# AROUND



2020

## SCIENCE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN NATIONAL EFFORT

*Reflections from Mardo Bouanga*

*Carbonite Sponsors Esports*

*Fostering excellence in teaching to  
improve student retention.*



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this semester as part of a scientific effort that has been implemented at institutions ranging from community colleges to doctoral-granting institutions in 30 states and Puerto Rico.

Ericka and her students are collaborating on a PARE (Prevalence of Antibiotic-Resistance in the Environment) project with Dr. Carol Bascom-Slack at Tufts University on the PARE Project: A short Course-based research project for National Surveillance of Antibiotic-Resistant Microbes in Environmental Samples. These 20 CMCC students represent the first group in Maine to participate.

This project is based on the CCURI (Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative) model of incorporating undergraduate research into community college curriculum, which employs a case-study method of instruction within the context of an ongoing research project.

Ericka explains that the CCURI model was attractive to her because they are leading the movement in changing academic culture in community colleges. "The URE (undergraduate research experiences) serves to provide our students with essential workplace and life-long learning skills such as collaboration, problem solving, creative and critical thinking and communication," she added.

In this initiative, the CMCC students are collecting soil samples and subjecting them to classic microbiological laboratory techniques to determine the relative number of bacteria resistant to antibiotics. The data are submitted to

a national database used to monitor antibiotic resistant hot spots on a nation-wide scale. "Students gain a sense of importance and ownership over their laboratory work knowing that it will be used in a real scientific study," notes Ericka.

"Not many students in a community college system have the opportunity to participate in a major science-based study such as this," notes Life Sciences major Andrew Craft. "I can only hope that this study will allow for more students to partake in such studies and foster more interest within the science fields at this campus, and potentially beyond," he added.

Ericka learned much about value of UREs for community college students when she participated in the Community College Undergraduate Research Experience Summit held in Washington, D.C. in November. The summit was designed to foster the sharing of proven practices and lessons learned. It also enabled participants to think broadly about research as a technique that can advance skills development and prepare students for the workforce.

This teaching model focused on undergraduate student research is a strategy to increase student achievement and completion rates in STEM programs. Ericka: "For us in the life sciences specifically, the goals are to promote student engagement and exploration of environmental and biomedical research questions/methods and to connect students to the research community."

COVER: Andrew Craft, left, and Sonya Moulton, right, examine a specimen with instructor Ericka Poppell. ABOVE: Bailey Madore and Rebekah Kropp lift a specimen to the light in order to analyze environmental bacteria.

*My family has been separated for many years and this is the reason why I work very hard so that one day I can bring my family back together. I want to make my parents proud and help my sister who lives in Africa. Thank you to Elm City International and Lauren Mednick who became important in my life because they gave me an opportunity to go to college. I am the first person in my family to go to college and I want to be a role model for my little brother. I told him if I go to college,*

*he can go to college as well. As a matter of fact, I expect him to do better than me in college! My two years in Central Maine have been great because I met a wonderful woman named Terry Charlton. Ms. Charlton has always helped me whenever I needed CMCE o pledv was right-y bacd and have beed iagain B haralege! Mt plel foe nex(ye this )Tj01.34 (tentnsfitero*

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Sponsored by Woza Sports, an organization offering international trips focused on soccer and support, Adolphe Bouanga (Mardo) began a cultural immersion in Cape Town followed by two weeks in Zululand in the small town of Mtubatuba.

*My trip to South Africa was great! I learned a lot about South African culture as well as the people. I had the chance to play competitive soccer and coach the kids. It was an amazing experience and I'm glad I was able to be part of it. This South Africa trip opened my eyes because it made me feel like a role model to the kids by giving them advice about life. I impacted a lot of kids' lives and I'm proud of it. The most powerful thing about the trip was that I had a chance to see my older brother again after 15 years. Thank you, WOZA, for making my dream come true. I was not planning on going to South Africa for the next 3 years of my life; but, because of WOZA, I had a chance to go and learn about another country's culture.*

## SPONSORS ESPORTS

**\$10,000,**

Carbonite, Inc. is sponsoring the Esports athletic program at Central Maine Community College (CMCC) for the current academic year.

“Carbonite’s Lewiston office has a culture of dedicated gamers and great respect for the value that CMCC offers our community,” said Tom Neal, senior manager of recruiting at Carbonite. “So when we heard CMCC was creating a new Esports team we jumped at the opportunity to be involved,” Neal added.

Carbonite provides cloud-based, online backup service and data protection strategies for individuals and small businesses. The company offers flexible deployment options and multi-platform support, plus powerful high-availability plans to protect systems from disruptions of any kind.


Esports (short for electronic sports), refers to the popular and rapidly growing field of competitive video gaming. The CMCC Esports teams compete in the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE). Andrew Morong, director of admissions and high school relations,

notes that CMCC competes largely against four-year colleges, since they comprise 90 percent of NACE membership. “We are currently the only community college north of Virginia to offer competitive Esports,” Morong added.

Students who participate have to meet the same requirements as other athletes at the college. CMCC Esports teams are competing in Hearthstone, Rocket League, Overwatch, Fortnite, and Rainbow 6 Siege. The college has a new, 1,600 square-foot arena located in Kirk Hall equipped with Alienware Area-51 Threadrippers; five console stations with Xbox One, PS4 Pro, and Nintendo Switch; and a Twitch broadcast booth for live streaming matches.

Esports is a fantastic way for Carbonite to engage with a technically oriented audience, Neal added. “We are proud to sponsor the Esports team and enjoy cheering on the Mustangs this season!”

ABOVE: Carbonite officials donned official jerseys for this photo taken in the Esports Arena at CMCC. Left to right are Rob Frost, vice president of customer care; Brett Siedman, senior director of customer care; and Tom Neal, senior manager of recruiting.

 Last semester, members of the Maine State Police conducted a “bag drill” exercise with students in the Advanced Certificate in Police Operations program. The exercise is designed to test students’ ability to manage stress, pay attention to detail, and think on their feet. They did very well!

from  
 the Maine Community College System  
 (MCCS) to start the "Teaching Excellence Program.  
 The goal of the MCCS Innovation Fund is "to stimulate  
 development of new, creative models for education  
 delivery."

Six full-time and adjunct faculty members have been  
 selected to participate and have each been awarded  
 a \$2,500 mini-grant and some additional funding for  
 project costs. They have made a year-long commitment  
 to conduct individual research; attend workshops and  
 other on-campus events; and participate in a "Facilitated  
 Learning Community" focused on the book *What the Best  
 College Teachers Do* by Ken Bain. They will also attend  
 the Higher Education Assessment Conference at New  
 England College in May.

The faculty members have developed projects - focused  
 on improving student learning and success by fostering  
 excellence in teaching - that they are implementing in the  
 classroom during the current spring semester. They will  
 then gather results during the summer in order to assess  
 and evaluate the findings. The six projects and results  
 will be presented to the entire CMCC faculty and staff in  
 August.



▼▼ Clifton Strengths in the Classroom

▼ Microaggressions in the College Classroom

▼ Differentiated Instruction

▼ Student Centered Learning

▼ Supplemental Instruction

▼ Project Based Learning

ABOVE: Some of our faculty members working on the "Teaching  
 Excellence Program" are pictured here at a recent meeting. Left to right  
 are Rachel King, Chris Thoma, Kathy McManus, and Diana Drown.  
 Missing are Amanda Guy and Matt Grinder.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ALUM PUBLISHES CHILDRENS BOOK



Felicia Champagne has had her debut book *Benji Goes to a New School* published by Pen It  
 Publications. Focused on helping children attending school for the first time and the difficulties they  
 may encounter making friends, Felicia has written a story many children can relate to as well as a  
 resource for parents helping their children transition.

Read more at the Sun Journal: [\[Link\]](#)

# “DOC” HANNAFORD SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED



has been awarded the 2019-20 Roland “Doc” Hannaford Scholarship for \$1,000 at Central Maine Community College (CMCC).

An Oxford native, Twitchell worked as a diesel mechanic prior to entering the Building Construction Technology (BCT) program at CMCC. He has earned highest honors in the program and is now a second-year student who plans to graduate in 2020. He particularly enjoys cabinetry and finish work. He lives in Bryant Pond with his wife and daughter.

This endowed scholarship fund was established in honor of Roland G. “Doc” Hannaford, a Maine native and graduate of the Building Construction Program at SMVTI (now SMCC) in 1964. A successful businessman who owned and operated his own remodeling and construction business, Hannaford Construction, Mr. Hannaford also served as a vocational education instructor for over 36 years. The BCT program at CMCC prepares students

for successful employment in construction-related fields. Through a combination of classroom study, mock-ups, and live projects, students obtain hands-on experience and become broadly familiar with methods, standards, and codes commonly associated with the construction industry. A “Jobsite Track” degree option in the BCT program is available that provides students with alternating classroom and laboratory training with paid, on-the-job experience.

ABOVE: “Doc” Hannaford scholarship winner Leon Twitchell poses while at work in the Building Construction Technology lab at CMCC.

Benjamin Doherty of Auburn and Cindy Ring of Stoneham have been awarded the 2020 Spaulding

# NEW FACES AT CMCC

The Maine Academy of Modern Music has awarded the 2019 Maine Music Educator Award to Michael

James worked previously for the Auburn and Lewiston public libraries. He earned his BS at Thomas College, and a Master of Library and Information Science at Kent State University. Jim lives in his home town of Lewiston.



# PHILIPPON PRESENTS AT BOSTON CONFERENCE



Roger Philippon, dean of planning and public affairs at CMCC, was a co-presenter at the NECHE annual meeting held in December at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston. Presenting along with Roger was Dr. Gavin Henning, past-president of the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education and professor of higher education at New England College.

Titled "Socially Just Assessment: Theory and Examples for Practice," their presentation focused on the importance of viewing assessment practices through an equity and social justice lens to examine disparities in our educational system. Dr. provided a conceptual overview of a socially just assessment, while Philippon explained the "Assessment Conference" process that CMCC has utilized for many years.

The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) is the regional accreditation agency for colleges and universities in the six New England states and several institutions overseas. The Commission is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a reliable authority on the quality of education for the institutions it accredits. The Commission is also recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), affirming that its Standards and processes are consistent with the quality, improvement, and accountability expectations that CHEA has established.

## CMCC FOUNDATION ANNUAL DINNER TO BE HELD APRIL 15, 2020 AT THE RAMADA IN LEWISTON



# Save the Date

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5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Ramada Conference Center  
490 Pleasant Street  
Lewiston, ME 04240

Save the date to join us as we honor the accomplishments and contributions of students, faculty, staff, and community supporters.



## Sponsorship Opportunities

\$1,000

*(Includes a table of eight at the 13th Annual Dinner)*

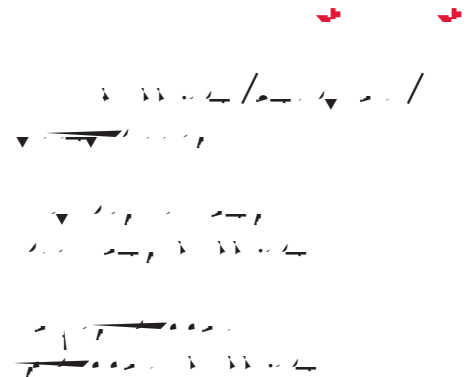
\$ 50

\$500

\$250

\$100

Annual Dinner Committee members, left to right, Christine Bossee, Bangor Savings Bank; Roger Philippon, Central Maine Community College; Heather Seymour, Central Maine Community College; Ron Lebel, Skelton Taintor and Abbot; Michele Tribou, Heidi's Brooklyn Deli.



The College is planning to add track and field to the athletic program starting in spring 2021. The program will be open to men and women, and early competitions will likely be focused on running events. As with most other teams at CMCC, the new track team is expected to compete in the Yankee Small College



CMCC and several other community workforce partners are collaborating with Carbonite to train and hire technical support professionals.

Taking part in the program along with the College are Lewiston Adult Education, Maine Department of Labor Business Employment Services and Western Maine Community Action.

Successful students will acquire a 40-Hour certificate, an 80-hour WorkReady Certificate with keyboarding, and interview with Carbonite for a technical support position. Once hired, candidates will continue in their training through an on-the-job training. The program will be tailored to the organization and provided on-site by Carbonite.

For more information on this and other WMCA programs and opportunities, visit [www.wmca.org](http://www.wmca.org) and [www.carbonite.com](http://www.carbonite.com).

ABOVE: From left, Patti Saarinen, Western Maine Community Action; Christopher Paradis, Central Maine Community College; Razell Ward, MSAD 52 adult education; Tom Neal and David Roy, Carbonite; Linda Gosselin, Business Employment Services; Christina King, WMCA; Jenny Rose, RSU 16 adult education; Jennifer Tiner, Lewiston adult education. In front, Patti Gray, BES.

