

PRESIDENT SELECTED FOR HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE

On Tuesday, February 6, 2007, the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut Community Colleges selected Acting President Anita Gliniecki to serve as the next president of Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport, Connecticut, succeeding Dr. Janis M. Hadley who retired in September 2006. Ms. Gliniecki has been serving as Acting President since that time. Since joining Housatonic Community College in 2003 as Dean of Academic Services, President Gliniecki has been involved in the implementation of the College's Middle College Pilot program in partnership with Bassick and Harding High Schools and has led Housatonic's efforts in planning and implementation of the Achieving the Dream initiative, as one of three Connecticut Community Colleges involved in this national initiative.

Prior to coming to Housatonic, President Gliniecki served as Vice President for Academic Services, Dean of Instruction, Dean of Applied Arts and Sciences, Dean of Nursing, Allied Health and Occupational Studies, and Dean of Nursing at St. Clair Community College, Port Huron, Michigan, a comprehensive college serving a five-county region with 10,000 credit and non-credit students. She has been a Clinical Preceptor at the University of Michigan Flint, and an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, as well as an Assistant Professor and Faculty Chair at Northern Michigan University.



Photograph by Harold Shapiro

President Anita Gliniecki

President Gliniecki holds a B.S. in Nursing from Wayne State University, Detroit, and an MS in Nursing from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. President Gliniecki has been involved in professional activities including her current service as Co-chair of Action Plan Development for Leadership Strategy for the Bridgeport Public Schools' Strategic Plan, and Honorary Chair for the CT State Employees Campaign. She was a presenter in 2006 at the American Association of Community Colleges on Achieving the Dream and on Education and Poverty for the Greater Bridgeport Council of Churches.

Dr. Murali Atluru, head of Diversified Technologies, North Haven, and member of the Community College Board of Trustees served as Chair of the Trustees' search committee for the Housatonic presidency and worked with representatives of the college's search advisory committee throughout the fall as they conducted a national search for the college's new president. Dr. Atluru attributed the successful outcome of the search to the match of President Gliniecki's experience in academic and administrative leadership with the search committees' requirements for a president. "President Gliniecki is an experienced educational leader who is committed to meeting the needs of learners and to building consensus about institutional priorities. Her dedication to community development is notable and will serve both the college and the communities it serves very well as the college seeks to expand its services to benefit the citizens of south central Connecticut."

Chair of the Board of Trustees, Louise Berry, of Danielson, Connecticut, expressed her confidence in President Gliniecki's ability to lead Housatonic Community College during the coming years. "President Gliniecki is well known for her dedication to teaching and learning and for her commitment to creating opportunities for students to be successful in achieving their academic goals." •



“We all Make Mistakes Just Learn From Them”

By Anthony Walton, Class of 2006
antell203@hotmail.com

I was sentenced in January 31, 2003 to a five-year sentence suspended after 15 months. My charge was carrying a pistol without a permit and was sent to J.B. Gates in Niantic Connecticut.

In June 2003, I was approved for a halfway house in Bridgeport. A halfway house is a transitional program for clients from jail back to society. I was placed at Connecticut Renaissance/Maple Street Halfway House at 574 Maple Street in Bridgeport.

One day a fellow client told me about Co-Op a program that helps people coming from jail. He said they would pay for college if you write an essay. The deadline was the next day. I wrote an essay and was accepted.

In September 2003, I started taking classes at Housatonic Community College. I worked full time at Godiva in Stamford as Keyholder and attended classes. The halfway house allowed me furloughs from Friday at 6:00 pm until Sunday 6:00 pm. I had to be in the house by 11:00 pm.

In April 2004, I was released from Maple Street back in society. I started working at Isaiah 61:1 Halfway House in July 2005 as House Manager. This was my chance to give back my knowledge and clients' hope.

On June 1, 2006, I graduated from HCC with an Associate Science Degree in Criminal Justice. HCC give me the opportunity to learn from some great professors like Howard Stein and Edwena Chance. My family gave me the support throughout my trials. My faiths in (Allah) God and my beautiful girlfriend Aretha gave me strength.

I will be starting at the University of Bridgeport in the Ideal program to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Human Services. I still work at Isaiah 61:1 as House Manager. The struggle is not over yet, I was turned down from several jobs because of my criminal record. I hope one day society will realize we all make mistakes and need second chances. We all make mistakes; we just have to learn from them. •

Keep in Touch!

Got a new job? Finished your degree? Got married? Had a baby? Do you want to keep in touch with other Housatonic alumni? We want to know what's happening with you – and your Housatonic friends want to know too. Please take a few moments to tell us your name, year of graduation, email address, current job, and what you have been up to since graduation.

Linda Bayusik
Housatonic Community College
900 Lafayette Boulevard
Bridgeport, CT 06604
LBayusik@hcc.comnet.edu

A Journey of Play

By Deb Torres

“I talk a lot about play in my work - I think art is play.”

- Susan Sharp



Her mischievous fingers dance through rich-colored pools of creative possibilities. She designs topography of beauty and innate

wisdom - a wisdom that dares not turn its back on the magic of life and the mystery within. It is an expression of the continuity of life, breath and beauty. All is an extension of her truth.

She is Susan Sharp, Class of '72, wife of Attorney Ron Sharp, a.k.a. “art framer,” homemaker, elder to two grown professionals and twin granddaughters — all of whom make her beam with pride – and yes, of course, artist extraordinaire.

Susan married young, finished college and went on to teach elementary school while raising her son and daughter. It wasn't until her youngest was in school in the early seventies that she decided to go back; her choice was Housatonic Community College.

She attributes her “plunge into art” to HCC's Art Professor Michael Stein. She strongly feels he “got her going.” He shares the significance of her experience.

“As you know, what everyone refers to as “talent” is really a combination of ambition and intelligence; Susan Sharp had (has) an abundance of both. She, and the other members of her class, were among the best art students we've ever had and I remember them with great fondness. She was a joy to work with, producing work of remarkable sophistication (then more realistic than now). Her current work is subtle and wonderful. I couldn't be more proud to have played a small part in her artistic education,” Stein said.

Susan has a simple belief system. She feels that we keep on going forward while continually evolving. “That's what makes life exciting,” she said. While admitting it might be a simplistic way of thinking, she feels it's also an optimistic one.

From 1993 to present, she has exhibited her work solo and in groups, in galleries and museums, from Massachusetts to New York City. She describes her medium as, “The pooling of fluid paint in combination with circuitous linear movements, suggesting but never defining. Connections drawn in the spaces between pull, twist, invert down, inside out, pulse into inner dimensions.”

• continued on page 3

Here's Your Chance!

Enter the Housatonic Building Naming Contest

Housatonic is conducting a contest to name both College buildings on our campus. Here's your chance to participate in the history of the College.

To enter the contest, you need to submit names for both buildings, the current structure and the new one, by April 30 using the form printed below. The winner has a choice of either \$100 credit at the Housatonic Bookstore, or \$100 at Ralph and Rich's restaurant in Bridgeport, plus a lot of glory and acclaim.

Here are the rules:

- The Naming Contest is open to everyone
 - students, faculty, staff, alumni – at HCC.
- Entries must include names for both buildings.
- Buildings cannot be named for individual persons, living or dead.

Entries must be submitted in the form below, and clearly legible.

You may submit multiple entries, but only one entry with names for both buildings on a form. Each entry must include names for both buildings.

All entries must be placed in the box in A201, or emailed as indicated on the form.

In the event that the building names are chosen from two different entries, the prize will be shared.

The Contest closes on April 30.

An ad hoc Naming Committee will select and recommend seven entries to President Gliniecki and the winner will be announced on May 20.

It is possible that a large corporate donation will be received by the College as part of the Housatonic Foundation Major Gifts Campaign now underway, in which case, if the donor wishes, the naming of the buildings (or one building) will supersede these conditions.

Housatonic Community College Naming Contest

E-mail your submissions to: ewatstein@hcc.comnet.edu.

Mail to: E. Watstein, HCC, 900 Lafayette Blvd., Bridgeport, CT 06604

Name of Building #1 – current structure:

Name of Building #2 – new structure:

Your name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____



Susan Sharp

• continued from page 2

Susan said when she looks down on her page she creates maps and evokes symbols, forms and shapes. Explaining, "Everything you experience comes through your work; they come out of your psyche intuitively."

Her latest work is exhibited at the Vassos Gallery, Silvermine Art Center of New Canaan. She is also a teacher and board member at the Silvermine School of Art. This exhibit *Four/Play* "embodies the spirit of play using the number four as inspiration," Susan said. Adding, "Number patterns, disparate juxtapositions, subconscious surfaces, fluid density and speed shifts characterize these works."



Susan sometimes works in patterns of four and two. *Paths of Ethos* and *Hindsight* consists of two four-foot square paintings on masonite panels, each divided into four unequal parts, viewed as a whole, suggest a personal narrative.

Her work called *Primal* is 22 small paintings, ranging in size, of random patterns. Colors shift from warm to cool suggesting the ebb and flow of life, making one believe they could pick out the origin of life.

Susan received the top grant in painting from the Connecticut Commission on the Arts in 2001 which she used to go to Santa Fe, New Mexico to work with a print maker. Her work was featured in the winners show in 2002. In between, she had a solo exhibition at Housatonic Museum of Art.

Robbin Zella, HCC's Museum Director, hosted Susan's *Fluidity and Fantasy* exhibit in 2001. The theme was a psychological and spiritual portrait of maps and inner terrain. It is a journey through the human conditions of pain, suffering, loss, death and life.

"I think Susan Sharp is one of the best abstract painters working today. She is a superb colorist and her technique is masterful," Ms. Zella said.

Susan's work enriches the walls of her home as well as her soul. In a brief meeting with her, you can feel the connection she has to her work through her creative spirit. In closing she shared a philosophical statement by Rainer Maria Rilke – "I live my life in growing orbits, which move out over the things in the world. Perhaps I can never achieve the last but that will be my attempt."

Susan Sharp's work can be viewed on line at www.susansharp.net.

Michael Altieri - Class of 1973

Michael attended HCC on a part-time basis, beginning in 1968, while working full time for The United Illuminating Company as a meter reader. He had no idea how important his Associate's degree would suit his career. He spent five years reading electric meters during the day and two or three evenings pursuing a degree in Business Administration/Marketing.

In 1972, a position in Field Engineering became available and Michael was given the opportunity, because he was attending college. He received his degree from HCC in 1973. Michael has worked for United Illuminating for 40 years in the Account Management/Marketing arena.

Michael is married and the father of two grown children. "After raising my children, I got back into reading mysteries a few years ago," he said. "As I approached mid-life, I was determined to try my hand at writing a novel." He quickly

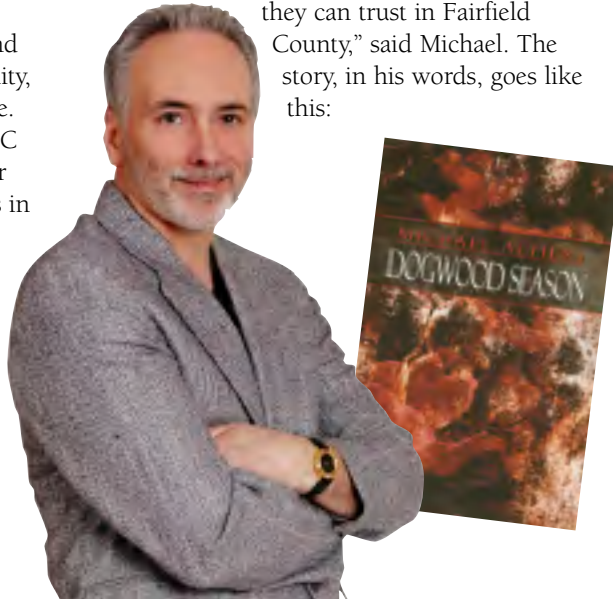
learned he knew nothing about writing a book. After reading several "How To" and "Dummy" books, three years later his novel, *Dogwood Season*, an erotic thriller, was published (10/2006).

He said that this fast-paced, intense page-turner will be hard to put down. "Although it's pure fiction, I will have young women thinking twice about who they can trust in Fairfield County," said Michael. The story, in his words, goes like this:

"When the sexually abused body of a young woman is discovered at Lake Mohegan, in Fairfield, Connecticut,

Detective Frank Gianni's sixth sense screams serial killer the minute he lays eyes on her. This erotically charged thriller calls upon the synergism of Detective Gianni and rookie Detective Brenda Corrino to find the killer before he strikes again. With the help of the Medical Examiner, Dr. Darren Crowe, Detective Corrino infiltrates the prime suspect's erotic world in an attempt to confirm her suspicions. The investigation develops much too slowly for Detective Corrino and she decides to take matters into her own hands. Unfortunately, the killer is one step ahead."

Michael will be presenting *Dogwood Season* and signing copies at the Mystery Author's Round Table in Borders of Fairfield, on May 16, 2007 at 7:00 pm. Autographed copies of *Dogwood Season* can also be purchased from his website, www.MichaelAltieriAuthor.com.



SPRING 2007 Calendar of Events

HOUSATONIC MUSEUM OF ART

April 2 – April 28
• **HCC Faculty Art Show**

April 22 – April 28
• **Children's Illustrations**
An exhibit of original art from traditional "Teaching Stories" from Afghanistan that are published as children's books by Hoopoe Books.

Afghan storyteller Lina Rozbih, Voice of America for Afghanistan, will present to area preschool children on April 27th. For more info, please call Laurie Noe at 203.332.5255.

May 3 – May 31
• **HCC Student Art Show**
Opening reception May 7, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (PAC)

April 19
• **3rd Thursday Cultural Celebration**
Celebrating the culture of Peace with vocalist Victoria Christgau.
7:00 pm

April 26 and 27
• **"The Diviners"** by Jim Leonard, Jr.
HCC's Class Act Theater performance
7:30 pm

April 28
• **"The Diviners"** by Jim Leonard, Jr.
HCC's Class Act Theater performance
2:00 pm & 7:30 pm

All performances in the HCC Performing Arts Center and are free and open to the public. All are welcome.

HCC WOMEN'S CENTER

April 26
• **Women Center Event**
Theresa Younger from the PCSW is giving a presentation on human trafficking in A108..

CLASS OF 2007 COMMENCEMENT
HCC's 40th graduating class at the Arena at Harbor Yard, May 31
7:00 pm

All events are subject to change. For more information, please call Linda Bayusik at 203-332-5058.

Come join us!

Housatonic is Growing

Housatonic Community College (HCC) has enjoyed unprecedented growth since moving to its new campus in January 1997. The last of the community colleges to acquire permanent facilities, HCC had spent more than 25 years in inadequate, leased space where it had not been able to realize more than a fraction of its potential enrollment. Since the move, Fall 1997 credit enrollment was up 24% over the preceding fall; Spring 1998 exceeded the previous spring, the first in the new campus, by 14%, and the annualized increase was more than 19%, putting HCC in the forefront of enrollment gains not only on a State, but also on a national basis. This trend has continued with additional increases of 7.9% in Fall 1998, 8.5% in Spring 1999, and 8.05% in Fall 1999. Enrollment growth has continued from that point until Fall 2006 when, primarily due to lack of space, enrollment stabilized.

Among the steps which the college has taken is the development of a weekend program with courses offered on Saturdays during Fall 1998 and Spring 1999, and on both Saturday and Sunday beginning in Fall 1999 and continuing to the present. In addition to this expansion on weekends, a considerable number of courses have been moved to less desirable times in the afternoon and evening due to a lack of space on campus.

Housatonic serves the largest service region of any community college in the state, a population of approximately 440,000. It is anticipated that the college enrollment potential from this population base should be in excess of 5500 credit students. Involvement in a well-developed continuing education program, including services to business and industry, should exceed that same level. All of this assumes the availability of adequate classrooms in which to schedule the courses and programs.

There is currently no room for expansion of offerings at any of the critical time periods. One must always keep in mind that attendance patterns at community-technical colleges are typically bi-modal, mornings and evenings, largely due to the work and family responsibilities of the student population. Moving popular and/or necessary courses to the more available afternoon hours is usually not an alternative since students simply cannot attend class at those times. Also, there is no room to provide for the development of new programs or even the expansion of current programs. Although the greatest current need is for general purpose classrooms, there are also needs for student spaces, the growing Theater Art Program, and a large multi-purpose area.



Architect's rendering of the new student lounge space.

Housatonic Community College plays an important role within its service region. It stands on the brink of a new future, full of promise and opportunity, with increased potential for meeting the needs of its constituents. The lack of adequate facilities would not only insure that potential is not realized, but it would also necessitate a retreat from the types and levels of service which have been planned for the coming years in direct response to requests from residents and local business. It would stifle the potential of an institution which,

having prevailed over adversity for thirty years, has not yet had the opportunity to become the best that it can be. Neither the State nor the Greater Bridgeport Region could well afford that loss and, as a result, the State has approved and funded a significant Expansion Project for the college.

This expansion project involves the renovation of the former Sears building as well as new construction and the renovation of the existing Performing Arts Center. The completed facility will house the Behavioral and Social Sciences, Business, and Humanities departments, and will have approximately 30 classrooms of various sizes, 10 computer classrooms, open computer labs, foreign language and ESL labs as well as a number of special purpose rooms. All instructional areas will be media rich and the entire building will be wireless capable.

A prominent feature will be an enhanced number of student spaces featuring formal study and social lounge areas as well as a number of informal student gathering niches. Dedicated space has been provided for Student Life, student government and student club activities. A Wellness Center is provided for both students and staff which will be located near the main entrance.

The building will have an expanded college bookstore, open and accessible to the public, and a second cafeteria area. A large events space, capable of multiple configurations, with support service will provide the opportunity to host college and community programming for up to 500 persons. All spaces have been designed with special provisions to appropriately display the college's extensive art collection, one of the largest of any two year college in the United States.

You can see the regular process being made at:

www.hcc.commnet.edu/expansion/index.asp.

CONNECTIONS STAFF

Contributing Writers • Linda Bayusik '96, • Deb Torreso

Design • Blaine Kruger

Housatonic Community College

*40th
Anniversary Party*

Saturday, June 2, 2007

7:00 pm to 10:00 pm • HCC Atrium

*Dinner, Dancing and
Live Performance by musical group*

Yesteryear



\$75 per person.

No tickets will be sold at the door • Seating is limited

Please RSVP by May 22, 2007 to 203-332-5038

Hosted by the
Housatonic Community College Foundation

For more information, please call 203-332-5038