

From: [Swirin-Yao, Dolores](#)
To: [Swirin-Yao, Dolores](#)
Subject: WCC Foundation and SUNY WCC updates and clippings
Date: Friday, August 1, 2025 5:22:39 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear WCC Foundation Board Members, Staff and Special Friends,

Happy Friday! I hope that you have been able to avoid the heat, rain and flooding this week. The weather predictions for the weekend are lovely! Here is some news to share:

- Our collaboration with **Grad Bag**, a Westchester organization that collects dorm room essentials from students discarding them at the end of the year and then cleans and repackages them for first-time residential college students in need, was highlighted by **News 12** when they interviewed participants at the event on campus yesterday. Several people have seen the segment on News 12, but it has not yet been posted online. I will share it in my next communication when we have a link.
- Marie and John DeCicco have graciously agreed to have **DeCicco & Sons** accept our **Corporate Citizenship Award** at our **Transforming Futures Together Gala**, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at Tappan Hill. The company is a very generous supporter of educational programs throughout Westchester, particularly at SUNY WCC. The company supports us in many ways including donating 300 turkeys and many other items for students at the annual Thanksgiving event and conducting a point-of-sale donation collection for us at the stores.
- There were several press mentions of our **TRIO grant** for low-income, first-generation and disabled students that I mentioned in my last update:
[Funding roundup - Community College Daily](#)
[Federal Funding Boosts Workforce Development at Community Colleges Nationwide | Insight Into Academia](#)
[SUNY Westchester Community College Awarded \\$306,514 Federal Grant to Support First-Generation, Low-Income, and Disabled Students - River Journal Online](#)
[SUNY Westchester Community College bucks nationwide trend to receive \\$300,000-plus federal grant - Westfair Communications](#)
- An article on a **weekend business management weekend series** being offered at SUNY WCC's Peekskill Extension Center appeared in the [River Journal Online](#).
- Sharing some sad news: we have recently learned that former WCCF *ex officio* Board Member (1975-1976) and SUNY WCC Professor Emeritus of Engineering **Arthur Hackett** died in May and that his wife, **Edith**, passed away the following month. According to our records, he was

99 years old. There is a scholarship in Professor Hackett's name. He is fondly remembered on campus.

I will be here through August 15 and then out on "staycation" the weeks of August 18 and August 25, returning after Labor Day. Like last year, I will do a combined July/August blog before I leave. I will be available for time-sensitive matters while I am away and will keep an eye on email on a daily basis.

All the best and enjoy the weekend!

Best,
Dolores

Dolores Swirin-Yao (she/her/hers) [What does this mean?](#)
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