



PRESIDENT'S *REPORT*

March & April 2024

Dear Harper College Community:

As you'll see from this full report, there have been many things happening at the college since I last updated you via the President's Report for February. We celebrated Women's History Month as well as Disability Awareness Month with a full slate of activities and educational programs. We also hosted the International Education and Social Justice Summit as well as the Foundation's Realizing Dreams event. Additionally, our faculty, staff, students, and community members observed the total solar eclipse on campus with a fun and science-filled event that was buoyed by an incredible midwestern spring day. We estimate more than 3,500 people were on campus to view this generational solar eclipse, and we handed out more than 5,500 eclipse glasses. I am so proud that we lived our mission as our community's college and convener. A special thanks to Associate Professor Raeghan Grassle and Amie Granger, community relations manager, for leading this work and the many faculty and staff who volunteered to make this event a phenomenal success.

I was pleased to attend Governor Pritzker's press conference where he discussed his proposed \$500M investment in quantum as well as our work with City Colleges to prepare the future quantum workforce in the Chicago MSA (including portions of Indiana and Wisconsin) and through our grant proposal with the official Regional Innovation and Technology Hub – The Bloch Quantum Tech Hub. If funded, we will co-lead implementation of the workforce development component of the proposal. I was joined by Dr. Susanne Brock, who has been instrumental in drafting the proposal in collaboration with City Colleges. As we think about the future of work and our nation's security and global competitiveness, our advancement in quantum information science and technology is critically important. We are pleased to be at the forefront of addressing the tremendous need to develop a quantum technician workforce and additional talent in quantum-adjacent careers!

Our Performance Arts Center, classrooms, conference rooms and hallways were filled with excitement during our Fourth Annual Professional Development Day (PDD) with the theme *Recognizing, Reimagining, and Recharging Our Community*. And we did just that, kicking things off with a poignant and funny keynote from longtime Second City creative executive Kelly Leonard along with a host of sessions and seminars on DEI, equitable teaching practices, health and wellness, best practices for the workplace and fun activities like learning to make a charcuterie board. While backstage before Mr. Leonard's speech, I learned an improv tradition geared toward building trust amongst performers. Each person says to the other, "I have your back!" before going out on stage. I truly felt like we had each other's backs during this professional development day. It was a rewarding and fun experience with tangible takeaways to improve the success and well-being of our students, employees and our community. PDD is firmly entrenched as an annual event at the college.

We have revamped and updated our "Hate Has No Home at Harper" messaging, which is displayed on posters around campus and on the Harper Vision TV monitors. Originally suggested by Professor Shante Holley, "Hate

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In Memoriam



Has No Home at Harper” is our declaration that the Harper community stands united against all discriminatory, hostile behavior and mindsets rooted in bias and hate. I encourage all of our students, faculty and staff to live up to this each day along with our core values of respect, integrity, collaboration and excellence.

You’ll often hear the Harper College community described as a “family” by faculty and staff. It has been a difficult few months for our Harper family with the loss of two faculty members and two icons of the Harper College legacy. With deep sadness, I share with you that we lost CE Instructor William “Tony” Porter and adjunct faculty member Tim Filliman, both from our music department, as well as former long-time board member and advocate Kris Howard and Al Larson, former Schaumburg mayor and Harper Distinguished Alumnus. They will surely be missed.



Academic Updates

By the Numbers

- Enrollment Services
 - In February and March, our Chatbot managed 57% (1,448) of the 2,541 chats received, while live staff members handled the remaining 43% (1,093). The primary topics of inquiry were "Register for a class" (246), "General Course/Schedule Information" (216), and "Health and Science Programs" (184).
 - Staff members efficiently managed student interactions in the CRM, processing over 3,168 emails/inquiry forms, 2,876 phone calls, and 1,493 in-person visits.
 - Through the CRM, we distributed over 71,000 outbound broadcast emails to students and business clients. Additionally, we tailored emails for BILT events to target specific clients.
- Center for New Students & Orientation
 - As part of the Differentiated Care Communication Plan, spring 2024, orientation leaders in the Center for New Students & Orientation (CNSO) made 825 calls to moderate risk, credential-seeking students who are Black or Latinx and have not met with an advisor this semester to ensure they meet milestones for the Path to Success.
- Counseling Services
 - Counseling Services served 65 students in the month of March.
- Hawks Care
 - In March, 122 students accessed the Food Pantry; 49 meetings were held with the manager or resource specialist; 10 students visited the Career Closet

Events

- Advising Services
 - Late February, the Advising Services team hosted its second Resources to the Rescue Fair to support students on campus. The event focused on connecting students with vital resources on campus and was held in the Avanté Concourse. The event supported the engagement of over 65 students, and survey results showed an average satisfaction rating of 8.9 out of 10 for the benefit that the event had in boosting their knowledge of Harper resources.
- Enrollment Services
 - Admissions Outreach hosted its second annual Career Forward event at the beginning of April. One hundred thirty-seven community members looking to refresh, reinvigorate, or change careers attended. Feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive.
- Student Engagement
 - Thirty current Harper students and 15 Harper Alumni participated in the Second Annual Professional Leadership Dinner, which was coordinated by Student Engagement and Harper Alumni Association as a part of the Lead, Explore, Accomplish, Discover (LEAD) Harper series to educate students on the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) competencies for career readiness. This program featured a workshop for students to learn professional and dinner etiquette, as well as the opportunity to practice their professionalism and networking skills with established alumni at a formal dinner. Both students and alumni expressed high satisfaction with the program, with students particularly enjoying the opportunity to learn from professionals who were once in their position as Harper students.

- Counseling Services
 - Counseling Services in collaboration with Wellness held the first Read. Sip. Chat: A positively inspiring book club in March in the library with 19 participants. The mission is to normalize discussions about mental health and wellness in community with other book lovers.

- Wellness
 - Fresh Check Day occurred in March and over 200 students attended the event. After attending, 59% of attendees mentioned that they were much more aware of the warning signs of suicide, 56% of students mentioned they were more comfortable talking about suicide and mental health, and 62% of students mentioned they were much more aware of mental health resources available to them after attending the event.
 - Over 120 students attended the Safer Spring Break event last month, where information was provided about bystander intervention skills, how to protect themselves in the sun, sexual health supplies, information about alcohol and other drug use, and protective strategies for a safer spring break.

- Career and Technical Programs
 - Across two days in March, over 100 transitioning Harper Adult Education students (including Adult Education students from D211 and D214) attended the Adult Educational Development (AED) department's College Experience Day. Faculty and staff from Simulation Hospital facilities, Informational Technology, Business/Accounting, and Manufacturing welcomed the AED students. Drs. Proctor and Ivory were also there to greet and meet students.

- Liberal Arts
 - Kevin Long, professor of theatre, welcomed Pulitzer-Prize winning playwright Beth Henley to campus for his production of her play *Crimes of the Heart*. Ms. Henley taught a playwriting workshop for our students, spent quality time over a catered lunch in the Wojcik Conference Center with the student company of *Crimes of the Heart*, visited with members of the Foundation's Heritage Society at Chicago Prime, and held audience talkbacks with professor Long as well as meet/greet/play signing.

- Math & Science
 - In February, Harper hosted seven local high schools for the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) Regional Math Competition 2024. Fourteen members of the Math Department helped to run the daylong event where roughly 300 local high school students competed in various levels of individual and team mathematics competitions. Top performers in these competitions advanced to the state level competition hosted at Illinois State University (ISU) in Normal, IL.
 - In March, 18 teams (seven in-district) of middle and high school students came to Harper to compete in the Illinois Science Olympiad 2024 Harper College Regional Tournament, which included 45 events from Anatomy and Physiology to wheeled vehicle builds. Buildings X and Z buzzed with chemistry, physics, astronomy, biology, and earth science puzzles while the gym in Building M wowed spectators with balsa-wood towers, roller coasters, airplanes that defied gravity and roving robots. The day started at 6:30 a.m. with team check-ins and lasted past 7:00 p.m. with an exciting awards ceremony. Teams came from as far away as Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA), Naperville and Pingree Grove because Harper runs the best regional in the state. We couldn't do it without the help of over 75 student volunteers and over a dozen Harper faculty and staff. We'd like to offer special thanks to the Math & Science Division team (Katie Nowik and Raeghan Graessle), Operations Services (led by Randy Toelke and Kathryn Mok), Rachel Hemm, Dan Miller, Thom Lange, and the Health and Recreation Center team led by Veronica Tantoco.



Highlights

- Student Highlights
 - Liberal Arts
 - The Broadcast Education Association announced its winners for the Festival of Media Arts. WHCM student Ricardo Garcia won Best of Festival for his radio promo Noir-Vember. Radio student Matt Byrne won second place for his program promo The Night Shift. Audio video technology student Cheryl Winkelman won second place for her short film that she produced in class at Harper. As you can see below, we took home all but one award in this national competition. <https://beaweb.org/festival/>
 - Honors Program and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)
 - Phi Theta Kappa Induction/New Members
 - Early March, our chapter of PTK inducted 96 new members at the Spring Induction Ceremony.
 - Chapter Officers Yosephine Lee, Rumeysa Aydin, Wengipreye Indiamawe, Priyanka Saroya, Sonia Ajakaiye, Anu Shah, and Ataera Alam spoke at the ceremony.
 - Scholarships and Awards
 - Chad Williams was named as a 2024 New Century Workforce Pathway Scholar and will receive a \$1,500 scholarship, sponsored by the Coca-Cola Foundation with additional support provided by PTK.
 - Chad Williams, Alex North, Mariia Dudinova, and Paola Uzcategui were named as members of the Phi Theta Kappa All-Illinois Academic Team and will be recognized at the All-Illinois Banquet in Springfield on April 25th.
 - Mariia Dudinova was selected for a PTK Distinguished Chapter Member Award.
- Division/Program Highlights
 - Hawks Care
 - Fresh and frozen food options launched in February in the food pantry.
 - The Snacks for Students Initiative launched in March.
 - The Childcare Case Manager started at the end of March to support carrying out the objectives of the Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) grant.
 - Health Careers
 - The Health Careers Division is pleased to announce that in March, the Medical Assisting Certificate Program was awarded continuing accreditation through spring 2033 by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). The commission recognized the program's continuous quality improvement in health professions education and its demonstration of compliance with the Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB) Standards.
 - Career and Technical Programs
 - Two of the Graphic Arts faculty took students to Indianapolis to the DSCOOP (HP and large industrial print and format) Conference. While there, one of our students got hired and another got several offers for jobs upon graduation.
 - Honors Program and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)
 - Academic Conferences and Study Abroad
 - At the end of February, seven honors students presented their research at the Honors Council of the Illinois Region Student Symposium at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.
 - Olive Maliszewski presented on Anglo-Saxon Artistry and *Beowulf*. She won third place for her talk.

- Lorina Rushiti presented on Ophelia's agency in *Hamlet*. She won an honorable mention for her talk.
 - Eleni Bovalis gave a talk on the dangers of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in higher education.
 - Emily Radziszewski gave a talk on the importance of access to nature and green spaces.
 - Flora Likis presented her paper on perceptions regarding nursing and wetnurses in the sixteenth century.
 - Tessa Puchalski presented a poster on antioxidants.
 - Diana Luchechko shared a poster on perceptions vs. the reality of radiation treatment.
- This month, four Honors/PTK students attended Catalyst, the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention.
- Over spring break, honors students traveled to Kenya, as part of the study abroad program attached to their spring 2024 Physical Geography and Environmental Biology Honors courses.
- Employee Highlights
 - Enrollment Services
 - Michael Shaw, director of CRM operations, has been selected as a finalist for the Big Dreamer (Community Champion) award, to be presented at the Salesforce Education Summit in May. This nomination celebrates individuals who consistently demonstrate thought leadership, innovation in transparency, and inclusive collaboration.
 - Health Careers
 - Health Careers Director of Nursing Jennifer Smith was appointed to the Illinois Board of Nursing to serve a three-year term. As one of twelve nurses on the Board under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation she represents LPN education in her role as a Board member and as part of the Education Sub-Committee.
 - Liberal Arts
 - Ana Maria Contreras co-authored a book chapter with Dr. Troy Hicks entitled, *Better Practices: Exploring the Teaching of Writing in Online and Hybrid Spaces*. The work features a range of practices related to online writing instruction and assessment. This edited collection offers instructors and writing program administrators theoretically grounded approaches from teacher-scholars of online writing. You can find the book at <https://wac.colostate.edu/books/perspectives/better/>. This book, like other books published by the Clearinghouse, will be available in a print edition from University Press of Colorado in the coming months.

Supporting the Strategic Plan

- Advising Services
 - Harper Advancing Retention through Connected Advising (ARC) Program in Advising Services
 - The ARC Program continues to provide opportunities to engage and support ARC advisors, faculty, and resources across campus. ARC advisors hosted three workshops to support students in March, and each workshop averaged an 85% attendance rate for registered participants:
 - Vision Board Creation
 - Financial Planning and Scholarships
 - Essential Career Skills
 - ARC faculty mentors: Our first semester with embedded ARC faculty mentors has showed a positive benefit, as students have a new layer of support in the classroom. ARC scholars



have a new requirement to meet with an ARC faculty mentor once this semester and are encouraged to engage as much as needed to reinforce success in the classroom.

Advancement

- As of April 8, the Foundation has awarded \$2,341,315 in scholarships to 1,084 students for the 2023-2024 academic year. Two new scholarships were established in the Foundation - The Engel Zoldak Family Scholarship and The Fudala Family Scholarship. This brings the total number of new donor-sponsored scholarships created since July 1, 2020, to seventy-one.

The Inspire Scholarship Campaign has raised \$32,745,866 and is 109% to its goal as of March 31, 2024. The campaign ends on June 30, 2024.

- The HOPE Giving Circle hosted its annual Women at the Table Breakfast and Panel Discussion earlier this month. The panel featured women in the arts for a discussion about leadership and the opportunities and challenges facing women in arts leadership today. Nearly 60 women from the community, Harper College, and students attended the event.
- The college's 4th annual day of giving, Harper HEART Day, April 17 and 18, focuses on student organizations and innovative projects. In addition to the giving campaign, Harper College retirees are invited to participate in a donor appreciation and reunion event. Seventy retirees are expected to attend.
- Harper College Alumni Relations hosted an "Alumni and Friends Social at Top Golf" in March at Top Golf Schaumburg. Over 35 alumni gathered to connect with fellow alumni and Harper College while enjoying two hours of golf and appetizers.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

- The DEI Team is excited to welcome Dr. Sonnet Gabbard, coordinator for student diversity initiatives, LGBTQ+ who joined us at the end of March. She will work closely with colleagues and community partners to serve our students, with a special emphasis on the LGBTQ+ population. Dr. Gabbard earned a B.A. in Political Science from Butler University, an M.A. in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from the University of Cincinnati, and a Ph.D. in Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies from Ohio State University. A welcome reception will be held on May 1, 2024, at the Cultural Center in D281.
- Students and staff can now enjoy comfort and quiet in the Sensory Room located inside the Cultural Center, Building D, Room D269. The Sensory Room, designed with feedback from members of the ADS Success Club, includes dim lighting, a projector that casts a galaxy on the ceiling, Legos, coloring sheets, a giant bean bag chair, couches, and fidget toys. Brought to you by the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with funding support from Harper Wellness and Counseling Services.
- In March, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion hosted a half-day Disability Symposium with approximately 55 attendees. Special thanks to the Office of Access and Disability Services for their contributions. The symposium featured keynote speaker Dr. Alison L. May from Dartmouth College who discussed how microaggressions keep disability out of diversity. Other presenters included Harper's very own Dr. Brian Cremins, professor in the English department and Dr. Bakahia Madison, a tenured professor at Oakton College. Jason Altmann, director of access and disability services closed out the day with valuable remarks.



- The DEI Team took our Guiding Learners to Intentionally Develop Efficacy (GLIDE) mentors and mentees on an excursion to Medieval Times in March. Students enjoyed a fun-filled two-hour immersive experience which featured horsemanship, jousting and falconry, and a four-course utensil-free meal that was served in a castle-like space. A number of faculty and staff also joined us to informally engage with GLIDE participants.
- In collaboration with the Library, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion hosted the second edition of our book club, Semillitas (which means seeds in Spanish). The goal is to plant seeds to affirm the Latine culture and build community at Harper by centering Latine authors. This semester we are reading Family Lore, by Elizabeth Acevedo, and will host our final discussion session at a local community coffee shop.

External Affairs

VP of External Affairs Jeff Julian concluded his term as president of the National Council of Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) during its national conference in Seattle in March. Jeff has served on the Board of Directors of NCMPR since February 2019. He continues to serve as the immediate past president. At the conference, Jeff presented *Veto Proof: Effective and Easy Ways to Use Government Relations to Tell Your Story*.

Communications

- The Communications team organized an employee town hall in which Dr. Proctor answered questions on a variety of topics including the compensation study, summer hours, sustainability efforts, our “3-2-5” flexible work schedule and more. In-person and virtual attendance totaled about 350 employees.
- The team also pitched, secured placement and/or helped facilitate more than 20 articles that appeared in local and national media publications. Among the highlights are:
 - WBBM-CBS Chicago TV news, the *Daily Herald* and other news sites previewed the Eclipse @ Harper event. The *Herald* (and WBEZ radio) also reported on Harper’s event, interviewing Associate Professor Raeghan Graessle about the eclipse.
 - The *Daily Herald* and *Patch* published articles detailing the many ways that Hawks Care supports students outside of the classroom. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi also highlighted the reports on his social media accounts.
 - *Community College Daily*, the *Achieving the Dream* newsletter, and many news sites ran Dr. Proctor’s editorial about how Harper and other community colleges can help advance industries of the future in the U.S.
 - The *Daily Herald*, *Journal & Topics* newspapers, *Patch*, and other sites published articles about Harper’s Center for Interprofessional Simulation and Innovation, with perspective from students and faculty.
 - Inside Higher Education highlighted how Harper helps its students transfer from community college to universities via preparation and transfer fairs.
 - The *Daily Herald*, *Journal & Topics* and *Patch* previewed Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Beth Henley’s visit to Harper in conjunction with the Harper Ensemble Theatre Company’s production of Henley’s *Crimes of the Heart*.
 - *Forbes*, the *State Journal-Register* and other publications published reports about how Harper is one of America’s 100 best midsize employers.
 - *Public Now* and the newsrooms for Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth reported on the federal funding legislators helped secure for career pathways and emergency services programs at Harper.
 - The *Daily Herald* and *Patch* previewed Harper’s Career Connections event that brought together students with alumni.



- The *Daily Herald*, *Journal & Topics* and *Patch* ran stories announcing funding available to local nonprofits via the third round of the Community Innovation Fund Grant Program.
- *New America* reported about how Harper and other colleges are using the National Science Foundation's Enabling Partnerships to Increase Innovation Capacity (EPIIC) grant funding program.
- *Journal & Topics* reported on the fire engine that Mount Prospect is donating to Harper for educational purposes.
- The *Daily Herald* and *Patch* published articles about student Dechen Atsatsang, who learned to join her passion for activism with majoring in political science at Harper.
- *Illinois Lifestyle News* and other sites reported on the Illinois Board of Higher Education's \$1.4 million in grant funding to nursing programs, including Harper.
- The *Daily Herald* included information about Harper Business Solutions, Harper's Illinois Small Business Development Center and the Career Forward event as part of a special section about Executive Education.
- Stamats wrote an article spotlighting Patrick Kelly, web content manager, and his use of AI at Harper.
- Digital Promise interviewed Associate Professor Marie Lapidus about bringing global competencies into career and technical education.
- The *Daily Herald*, *Journal & Topics*, the *News-Herald* and other media sources reported on Harper student Bernie Bluestein's journey to Washington, D.C. to receive the Congressional Gold Medal for his service in the Ghost Army during World War II.
- *Community College Daily* ran an editorial by Jeff Julian, chief of staff and vice president of external affairs, about why colleges should start podcasts.
- The *Daily Herald*, *Journal & Topics* and *Patch* ran stories about Harper Radio's national awards wins and nominations.
- *Bold Blind Beauty* profiled Harper alumnus and U.S. Paralympic champion Isaac Jean-Paul, who will serve as this year's Commencement speaker.
- WREX-NBC Rockford TV News and WTVO-ABC reported on Harper's transfer agreement partnership with Rockford University regarding degrees in cybersecurity.

Legislative Affairs

- In February, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky visited the Harper College Learning and Career Center (LCC) and had her first meet and greet with Dr. Proctor. Joining the Congresswoman were her staff members including Andrew Goczkowski, who is also the mayor of Des Plaines, and Prospect Heights Mayor Patrick Ludvigsen, a Harper alumnus, and Village Manager Joe Wade. The delegation toured the LCC and learned more about the college's programs including its focus on aviation maintenance.
- Later that same day, newly appointed State Representative Tracy Katz Muhl visited Harper's main campus for a meet and greet with Dr. Proctor and to tour the Cultural Center and Hawks Care. Rep. Katz Muhl was recently selected to fill the remainder of State Rep. Jonathan Carroll's term in the 57th District.
- With the passage of the FY24 federal budget, Harper College received final official confirmation that it will receive \$1,000,000 for the Emergency Services Training Center and \$500,000 to support a semiconductor and nanotechnology program. Thank you to Senator Durbin and Senator Duckworth respectively for requesting and supporting that funding for the college.

Marketing Services

- The Marketing Services Design and Publishing Services teams collaborated with Facilities last month on the new wall graphics and photos in the Dental Hygiene area in Building X.
- Harper College received a Gold Paragon award for the high school view book from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) at its annual conference in March.



Finance and Administrative Services

Facilities Management

- The 2021 Campus Master Plan has identified the need to replace the Business and Social Science Buildings (Buildings I and J) with new and improved classrooms, laboratories, and offices to provide additional facilities for new and expanded programs. Design development is underway and planned to be presented to the August Committee of the Whole.
- The scope of work for the Canning Center will include new facilities for the Campus Life/One Stop Admissions Center (Student Center) to provide one location for student services and related functions, facilities to support the Hospitality Program, and the University Center. Project is on track to have final construction documents (CD) submitted to the Capital Development Board (CDB) in May 2024.
- The scope of work for the Emergency Services Training Center (ESTC) Study includes architectural and engineering services required for the program analysis of the new Emergency Services Training Center. Design development is complete and will be presented to the Board in May 2024. Construction is scheduled to begin in fall of 2024.

Human Resources

- Human Resources introduced three new benefits for benefits eligible employees. These include pet insurance and car and home insurance. These are additional benefits offered through MetLife, our life insurance provider.
- Harper announced that we will be participating in summer hours for another year. Beginning at the end of May, most offices across campus will close at noon on Friday and reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Monday. This will run through the first week of August. We hope that employees will take advantage of the time to rest and rejuvenate and spend time with their families.
- Harper hosted Professional Development Day earlier this month. Employees were able to experience a packed day of Recognizing, Reimagining and Recharging. Thank you to the dozens of volunteers, committees and presenters who made this such a successful day.

Risk Management

- The Department of Risk Management was able to obtain the Storm Ready designation from the National Weather Service (NWS) for Harper College. The assessment looked at a number of criteria including:
 - Emergency Operations Center capabilities
 - Emergency Communications
 - Emergency Operations Plans
 - Coordination and Partnership with the NWS
 - Training
 - Severe weather warning capabilities.

Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness

- The Strategic Planning and Accountability Committee along with the Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Division hosted a SWOT Dialogue Session, attended by more than 100 faculty and staff, to provide feedback on the draft 2024 SWOT Analysis. The SWOT Analysis provides the College with an assessment of internal strengths and weaknesses, as well as the identification of external opportunities



and threats. Along with the college mission and vision, the SWOT Analysis is critical in laying the foundation for future planning.

- The Northern Illinois University's Center for Governmental Studies (CGS) has provided the 2024 Environmental Scan. The purpose of the Environmental Scan is to identify the trends and drivers of change that will shape the Harper landscape in the next three to five years. The key areas included in the scan are population trends, commuting patterns, businesses' employment needs, workforce trends, equity indicators, and occupational diversity. CGS also conducted a curriculum analysis to identify programs with room to expand, new program opportunities, and programs that may no longer be viable.
- The Office of Outcomes Assessment worked with the Facilities Department to conduct a survey on potential American Disabilities Act concerns that was distributed to students and employees this spring. The survey gathered information about disability access on Harper's campuses, as well as technology accessibility, and how Harper can improve disability access on campuses.
- The Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Division unveiled [Student Success 360](#), an interactive dashboard, available through HIP. This comprehensive tool provides every employee with the ability to analyze key student success indicators, explore student intersectionality of two student characteristics, track the momentum indicators comprising the Path for Success, and, for the first time, evaluate the effectiveness of various student success initiatives.

Strategic Alliances and Innovation

Grants Office

- In March, Harper was awarded \$148,385 from ICCB for the Access and Equity in Dual Credit grant program. With this funding, Harper will develop dual enrollment classes for new and enhanced programs such as Cybersecurity, Health Information Technology, Drone technology, and Fire Science. Harper will also provide professional development for educators, host career-awareness events for dual credit students, offer transportation to and from Harper's campus, and develop team-based challenges.
- In March, the Educational Foundation was awarded \$10,000 from the Barrington Area Community Foundation for 2+2 Transfer Pathways scholarships for Barrington area students seeking to transfer from Harper to a four-year university.
- In March, Dr. Susanne Brock presented Stronger Employer Engagement Leads to Innovation at the League for Innovation in the Community College's 2024 Innovations Conference. This presentation highlighted the Innovation Accelerator, new emerging technologies programs at Harper, and the implementation of the transformative Business and Industry Leadership Team (BILT) advisory council model for the new Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, and Cloud Computing programs.

Workforce Solutions

- American Community Bank and Trust, in Woodstock, IL is our new Apprenticeship Employer partner. They will be participating in the Banking and Finance Apprenticeship Program.



In Memoriam

- Tim Filliman, our dedicated adjunct faculty member in voice, passed away on March 2. Tim shared his passion for music with Harper College students for many years. Colleague Ed Hamel describes him as a supportive voice for our school and students, as well as an exceptional musician and educator. [Read Tim's obituary.](#)
- Harper College recently lost a pillar of our community. Dorothy “Kris” Howard passed away on March 13 at the age of 98. Kris was a fierce advocate for Harper and her enthusiasm for serving her community appeared limitless. [Read more about Kris' life and legacy.](#)
- Al Larson, former Schaumburg Mayor and Harper Distinguished Alum, passed away on March 19. Al's legacy as an eight-term mayor and his contributions to our community will be forever cherished. [Read more about Al's life and legacy.](#)
- William “Tony” Porter, our outstanding orchestra conductor, passed away on April 6. Since 1994, Tony shared his passion for music with Harper College students and the wider community who attended his campus concerts. The obituary is not available at this time.