



# Gloucester County College

LEARNING FOR REAL LIFE

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**Title** Atlantic Medical Imaging Foundation Scholarship:  
GCC (ULTRA) SOUND OF SUCCESS

Deptford Twp. – Gloucester County College Diagnostic Medical Sonography students, Sandra Ober of Voorhees and Theresa Pavesi of Hammonton, are pleased to have made a good impression with the Atlantic Medical Imaging (AMI) Foundation.

The two GCC students are the grateful recipients of the AMI Foundation Jan Astin Scholarship, a \$2,750 annual scholarship awarded to a first and a second year full-time student who maintains at least a 3.0 GPA. The scholarship pays for the tuition, fees, and books associated with the college's Diagnostic Medical Sonography course. Eleven students applied for the scholarship, which required submitting a three page personal essay and evidence of financial need.

This is the first year that the AMI Foundation has funded the scholarship at GCC in honor of Dr. Astin, a former radiologist and partner with Atlantic Medical Imaging. The AMI Foundation started the scholarship last year awarding it to students participating in the Shore Memorial Hospital and Cumberland County College radiology programs. The three-year-old AMI Foundation decided to branch out even further to recognize other students— this time at GCC and Brookdale Community College in Monmouth County.

Dr. Astin, a Rutgers University graduate named The Henry Rutgers Scholar of the Year, completed his medical education at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. He has spent his

entire professional career with Atlantic Radiologists, PA and Atlantic Medical Imaging, working at both the Atlantic City Medical Center and the practice's various offices. Dr. Astin retired in 2003 after a long and distinguished career.

“The scholarship being provided to two of our deserving students by the Atlantic Medical Imaging Foundation is a tribute to both the quality of our diagnostic medical sonography students and the faculty who teach them,” stated GCC President William F. Anderson. “This is a dedicated commitment by the AMI healthcare profession to support student success and assist the community.”

“We are pleased to be able to support a field in which we are active,” AMI Foundation Trustee Paul Farrell told Ober and Pavesi before presenting their checks

“I am so excited,” stated Ober, the first year AMI scholarship recipient and mother of six who decided to return to the classroom. “It is wonderful to be recognized for my efforts and perseverance, especially by those in my field of study. This is a good example to my children and an incentive to them to do well in school.”

Pavesi, the mother of two young daughters ages five and seven, cried when she received the phone call notifying her of the scholarship award. “It’s a tremendous help to my family. It helps to confirm that I’m on the right path,” stated the second-year student who sent an ultrasound picture of a cardiac muscle with the words “thank you from the bottom of my heart” to express her gratitude.

GCC’s Program Director of Diagnostic Medical Sonography Michael Keith credits the College’s alumni working in the field for the program’s success. “Our alumni are important ambassadors for GCC’s program. There is a significant difference in the quality of our students. Because of our students’ hard work and by learning the basics well, our program competes at a university level,” stated the 15-year GCC veteran who came to the college from Hahnemann

University Hospital. “As the program director and a parent, the importance of this scholarship is phenomenal. It relieves the economic burden and allows the students to concentrate on their studies.”

“The College’s sonography program is very competitive. We only accept 15 students into each group,” noted Yvonne Burgess, Dean of nursing and allied health. “In the clinical field, our students work one-on-one with a registered sonographer to gain experience.” Three instructors, Keith and clinical coordinators, Laurie Leslie and Patricia Perez, teach GCC’s sonography program.

Since opening their doors in 1964, Atlantic Medical Imaging has grown to include seven outpatient offices with a reputation for providing the most advanced diagnostic imaging services. Board-certified physicians educated and trained at some of the most prestigious universities and medical centers in the country, including Yale, Stanford, Duke, and Johns Hopkins, are associated with the facility.

“A scholarship of this magnitude allows outstanding students in the medical field the ability to focus more on their academic efforts, which in time will greatly benefit the public they serve,” stated Robert C. Ahrens, President of the Gloucester County College Foundation and President /CEO of the Gloucester County Federal Savings Bank.

GCC’s 250-acre campus is located on Tanyard Road in Deptford, just off Exit 56 of Route 55. This year, the College is celebrating 40 years of student success since its founding in 1966. During the past four decades, GCC has grown to become a valuable asset to the Gloucester County community providing quality academic programs, cultural enrichment, and professional development.

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