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NOVEMBER 18, 2021

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Welcome to the **FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE**

2021

President's Gala *Emerging Stronger*

An evening to honor

Vincent Tedesco, Total Technology Solutions
The Ram's Horn Award for Corporate Leadership

Murray Pasternack '60
The President's Award for Alumni Leadership

Professor Allison Puff
The President's Award for Faculty Leadership

Don Mahalli '21
The President's Award for Student Leadership

A Welcome Message from the President of Farmingdale State College



Dear Alumni, Colleagues, and Friends,

Welcome to the President's Gala. This is truly a time for celebration.

While this past year was difficult, it has also been a period of remarkable achievement for Farmingdale State College. Despite adversity, we've emerged stronger. We could not have done so without you and those whose contributions and achievements we're honoring tonight. Thanks to your extraordinary support, FSC has not simply survived; it is poised to thrive.

This year's Gala has special significance as it marks our return to an in-person event. I am thrilled that we are able to enjoy the company of friends and colleagues who embrace the mission of Farmingdale State College and our shared dedication to student success.

We honor four remarkable individuals who have contributed to our campus in numerous ways. Congratulations to this evening's recipient of the Ram's Horn Award for Corporate Leadership, Vincent Tedesco of Total Technology Solutions. We are also pleased to present the President's Award for Alumni Leadership to one of the College's most generous benefactors and an Electrical Engineering Technology graduate, Murray Pasternack '60. The President's Award for Faculty Leadership is awarded to Allison Puff, Professor of Visual Communications, for her tremendous body of work as a distinguished teacher, leader, and colleague. This year's recipient of the President's Award for Student Leadership is Don Mahalli '21, who was an exemplary scholar and student leader during his time at FSC.

Our honorees reflect the key constituencies vital to the College's success: students, faculty and staff, alumni, and our business partners. Each represents the very best of Farmingdale State College. Congratulations to each of them.

Farmingdale grads' early career earnings rank among the very highest in the nation and they are stemming the region's brain drain. Over 90 percent of graduates are employed or in graduate programs within six months of graduation. Three-quarters of those employed are working on Long Island. Perhaps nothing underscores the value of the FSC experience more than the success of its students on national and regional licensure and certification exams. Over the past four semesters students in FSC's Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Med Lab Science, and Professional Pilot programs have each achieved licensure/certification pass rates of 100%.

Our position as one of the very best values in higher education is nearly unrivaled. Farmingdale remains a true engine of opportunity. We are proud of this amazing community with terrific students, incredibly dedicated faculty and staff, and alumni who value the College and share its vision. Thank you very much for your support and for your commitment to Farmingdale State College. Enjoy the evening!

Sincerely,

John S. Nader PhD
President



President's Gala Emerging Stronger

The Farmingdale College Foundation & Alumni Association



Dear Alumni and Friends,

On behalf of the Farmingdale College Foundation and the Farmingdale College Alumni Association, thank you for supporting this year's in-person President's Gala.

Time and time again throughout Farmingdale's long history, we have proven how the College emerges stronger after facing adversity. The same is true now, in 2021, as our students continue to excel academically and our graduates routinely find success early on in their careers. In fact, according to the College Net Social Mobility Index they are ranked in the top 2% nationally in early career earnings.

Our most remarkable stories revolve around our students who are job ready when they graduate from FSC; 94% of them are employed six months after graduation or enrolled in graduate school. The majority of recent graduates stay close to home with 96% of them working in New York State, 95% in New York City and 75% on Long Island.

Many of these graduates leave Farmingdale with little or no debt. FSC ranks #4 among New York State public colleges in lowest student debt and 55% of bachelor's students graduate with no debt.

For more than a century, over 100,000 Farmingdale State College alumni have been the fuel for the Long Island economy. As the College embraces the future with great enthusiasm, we look forward to working with even more corporate partners, alumni and friends to create new pathways to success.

Your generosity and support promise that Farmingdale State College will remain a leader among elite public institutions in this region and beyond. Thank you for joining us tonight and for celebrating our success with some of our highest achievers.

Sincerely,

Robert Van Nostrand '77
President
Farmingdale College Foundation

William Jimenez '10
President
Farmingdale State College Alumni Association



President's Gala Emerging Stronger

The Ram's Horn Award for Corporate Leadership



The Ram's Horn Award for Corporate Leadership **VINCENT TEDESCO**

President and CEO, Total Technology Solutions

An industry leader and 33-year IT veteran, Vincent Tedesco founded Total Technology Solutions in 1988 in Melville, New York. He transformed a computer VAR into a leading full-service Information Technology solutions provider. With vision and leadership, the organization evolved with the changing IT industry to provide innovative solutions for business continuity and cybersecurity. Total Technology Solutions offers a broad

range of IT services from ensuring day-to-day business continuity to diagnosing and defusing potentially hazardous IT threats.

In an initiative to combat cybersecurity threats, Mr. Tedesco formed an internal Security-as-a-Service Committee. The committee reviews cybersecurity tools and services and researches newly reported vulnerabilities issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) National Vulnerability Database (NVD).

Mr. Tedesco was instrumental in the development of a public safety software application that has since been acquired by two industry leading public safety software vendors, Tiburon, Inc. then TriTech Software Systems. He was also named COO at Tiburon, Inc.

Today, Mr. Tedesco is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). In addition, he is a Farmingdale College Foundation Board Member and his son is a senior and soccer player at Farmingdale State College. A true family man, Mr. Tedesco enjoys spending quality time with his wife and three college-aged children.

The President's Award for Alumni Leadership



The President's Award for Alumni Leadership **MURRAY PASTERNAK '60**

Founder and CEO (retired), Pasternack Enterprises

Even before enrolling at FSC, Murray Pasternack '60 had developed a keen interest in radio frequency (RF) components — the modules that transmit signals and are most often used in everyday consumer products such as microwaves, garage door openers, and wireless alarm systems. That passion propelled him to spectacular success in the RF industry and, most recently, to the status of one of Farmingdale's largest alumni benefactors.

Fast forward, Mr. Pasternack is now a retired Attorney, Engineer, Banker, Entrepreneur and Private Equity Investor. His first career was an electronic engineer where he spent ten years working for world class aerospace companies designing complex microwave receiver components. In 1962 he founded Electro-Physics Corporation of America, aka EPCOA, and has operated it and its successors ever since. Among his designs were the mono-pulse radar receiver for the Gemini space program used in 1965 to accomplish the very first rendezvous in orbit and a transceiver used by downed US Navy pilots to communicate with rescuers during the Vietnam War. In 1970, he founded Southwest Microwave Company (not related to the current company of the same name), a microwave components manufacturer and co-founded Environmental Communications, Inc., a company that developed one of the earliest cable television audience response systems.

In 1972, after selling his interest in both companies, he founded Pasternack Enterprises (see www.pasternack.com). Under his leadership, Pasternack Enterprises became a world class supplier of radio frequency and microwave components. Mr. Pasternack studied law while also managing Pasternack Enterprises and in 1976 passed the California Bar Exam. Mr. Pasternack practiced law from 1976 until 2020. His law practice was limited to business related law. Mr. Pasternack managed Pasternack Enterprises as President and sole owner for more than twenty years before turning the company over to his son. Mr. Pasternack has in addition to practicing law, consulted to and/or invested in dozens of small and medium size businesses. Mr. Pasternack was, for 10 years, a founder, director and the controlling stockholder of Capital Bank, now a part of Enterprise Financial Services Corporation, with bank branches in 6 states. Mr. Pasternack received his Associates Degree at Farmingdale where he studied Electrical Technology, followed by his Bachelors and Juris Doctor degrees at the American College of Law.

Since re-connecting with FSC, recently Mr. Pasternack has committed a total 1 Million Dollars to fund the Murray Pasternack Endowed Scholarship in Engineering.

The President's Award for Faculty Leadership



The President's Award for Faculty Leadership
PROFESSOR ALLISON PUFF
Professor, Visual Communications Department
Farmingdale State College

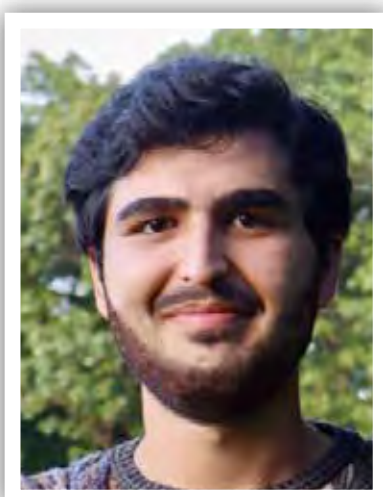
An educator, administrator, and accomplished freelance designer, illustrator, and entrepreneur, Allison Puff has contributed a great deal to Farmingdale State College and to the community at large. Currently the Academic Program Manager, she has helped faculty across the College develop sixteen new programs and revise fourteen. She has also served as Associate Provost, Associate Dean of the School of Business, and Chair of the Visual Communications Department. Highlights of her time in administration include working with faculty to implement an Applied Learning graduation requirement, spearheading the College's successful Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement award, and supporting the development of the first fully online programs at FSC.

A staunch proponent for the arts across the campus, Professor Puff was the founding member of FSC's Public Art Committee and has long served on the Artists and Lecturers Program Board and the Writing in the Disciplines Committee. Her teaching is equally outstanding, earning her both the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Farmingdale Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Professor Puff has also co-chaired the American Institute of Graphic Design's National Design Educators Steering Committee and served on the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum Education Board.

She received her MFA in "Illustration as Visual Essay" from the School of Visual Arts in New York City in 2000 and earned two BAs, one in English and Communications and one in Illustration. She is a Full Professor of Visual Communications.

The President's Award for Student Leadership



The President's Award for Student Leadership
DON MAHALLI '21
Valedictorian for the Class of 2021
Farmingdale State College

Don Mahalli graduated Summa Cum Laude from Farmingdale State College with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and minors in Politics and Legal Studies. Achieving a perfect GPA, Don was named Valedictorian for the Class of 2021 and received the Student Award for Academic Excellence, the TRIO Director's Award, and the State University of New York Association of Council Members and College Trustees Excellence and Student Initiative Award. On campus, Don was the President and Founder of the Law Club, the Secretary for the Art and Design Club, a tutor in the Math Center, a Senator for the School of Business, and a member of TRIO. In the future, Don hopes to create a non-profit Vineyard in Israel that employs both Israelis and Palestinians. Lastly, Don enjoys baking bagels, making wine, and ghost hunting.

When not making bagels, Don also enjoys cooking authentic Persian and Israeli meals with his loving mother. Don has also been heavily involved in the Young Israel of East Northport with Rabbi, Rebbetzin Bausk and their cute dog Sophie. Don currently coaches and trains two soccer teams with his best friend Ethan in the Long Island Junior Soccer League. Don gained a love for the sport of soccer after being involved with the Farmingdale State Women's soccer team under head coach Christopher Roche.

The Vice President for Development & Alumni Engagement



Dear Alumni, Colleagues and Friends,

Thank you for supporting our President’s Gala. I’m delighted you could join us this year. Our honorees this evening truly personify all that elevates Farmingdale State College in a class of its own. I’d like to extend my heartfelt congratulations, thanks, and praise to Murray, Vincent, Allison, and Don. Their accomplishments are only matched by their love for Farmingdale and we are proud to celebrate with them tonight.

2021 has been a remarkable year of achievement for the College. One of our many points of pride was published in *The Wall Street Journal’s* examination of the ratio of student debt to post-graduate income. By this measure, a Farmingdale degree in nursing offers our students an excellent return on investment, ranking in the top 25 percent of all U.S. programs. Among the other Farmingdale programs recognized were our business management and marketing programs (tied for first place) and the computer programming and electrical engineering technology programs, which were each in the top five for return on investment. FSC keeps student debt to a minimum by keeping tuition low and providing scholarship aid. We can’t do that without our alumni and friends. Your generous giving helps make this possible. The critical dollars raised tonight will have a far-reaching impact on students, faculty, staff, and the campus itself.

The Farmingdale Fund—which helps to fill the gap between tuition income and the actual cost of educating each student—provides flexible, unrestricted support that allows the College to respond nimbly to ever-changing needs. Faculty innovation and scholarship keeps our academic environment thriving. Providing access to students with financial need ensures that those who wish to be a part of our community can do so without hardship. All gifts, no matter the size, help the College serve as an engine of opportunity for our graduates. Our alumni go on to find meaningful and fulfilling careers, with early career earnings ranking among the top 2% in the nation (CollegeNet 2019) improving their social mobility without the burden of serious debt.

That’s what investing in Farmingdale can do. Outcomes like those are what brings us together tonight, to share in the joy of philanthropy as we celebrate our honorees. I know many of you have experienced that joy already, and our school is better for it.

Thank you so much,

Matthew Colson
Vice President for Development & Alumni Engagement

The Farmingdale College Foundation

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Jerome D’Antone
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Sal Ferro '84
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Jason Golden
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Veronica Henry, EdD '77
Farmingdale State College (retired)

William Jimenez '10
President, FSC Alumni Association
Stony Brook University

Joseph Moscola
Northwell Health

Vincent Naab '78
Naab Hortco, LLC

John Nader, PhD
President,
Farmingdale State College

Patricia A. Panetta '80
NYC Department of Education

Susan Ring '77
Sterling National Bank (retired)

Steven Rodler '80
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Howard Rowland '76
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Total Technology Solutions

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Alumni Association
Stony Brook University

Sylvia Nicosia '04
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Stony Brook University

Samuel Feliz '16
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Engagement & Stewardship
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Susan Ring '77
Vice President, Farmingdale
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Sterling National Bank (retired)

Dan Sheehan '77
Nassau County Police Department (retired)



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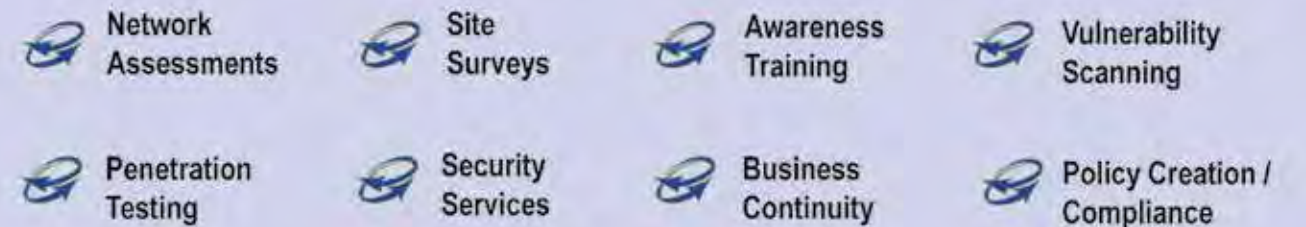
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Polsinelli and our colleague Aaron Zerykier congratulate Vincent Tedesco, President and CEO of Total Technology Solutions as an honoree for the Rams Horn Award for Corporate Leadership.

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Vincent Tedesco, Total Technology Solutions

The President's Award for Alumni Leadership

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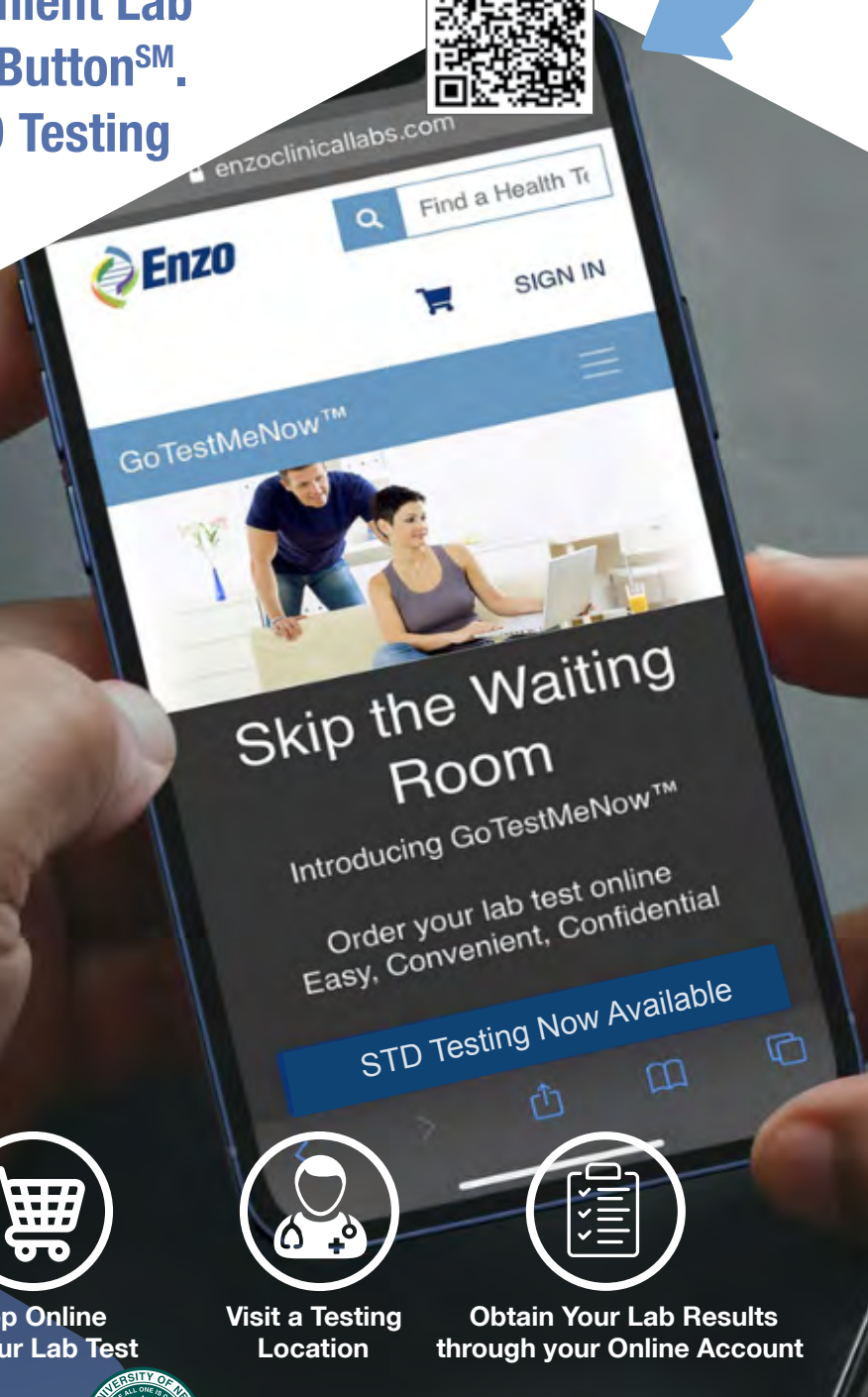
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Congratulations to this year's honoree:

Vincent Tedesco

President and CEO, Total Technology Solutions

Michael A. Epstein
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Congratulates the Honorees

Vincent Tedesco, Total Technology Solutions

Murray Pasternack '60

Professor Allison Puff

and

Don Mahalli '21

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Murray Pasternack '60
Professor Allison Puff
and
Don Mahalli '21**

For their leadership to

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FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE
—ALUMNI ASSOCIATION—

is proud to celebrate with you in-person again
at the 2021 President's Gala

Congratulations

to our outstanding honorees:

Vincent Tedesco, Total Technology Solutions

Murray Pasternack '60

Professor Allison Puff

and

Don Mahalli '21

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Learn about more alumni engagement opportunities by visiting us at alumni.farmingdale.edu

Michelle Johnson

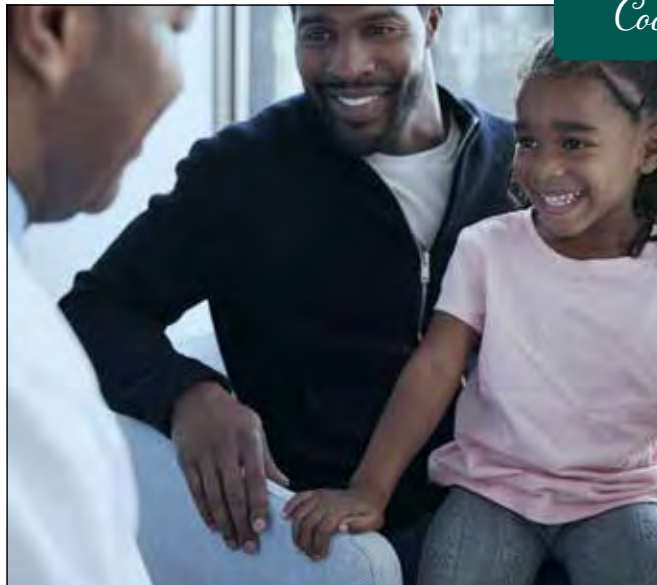
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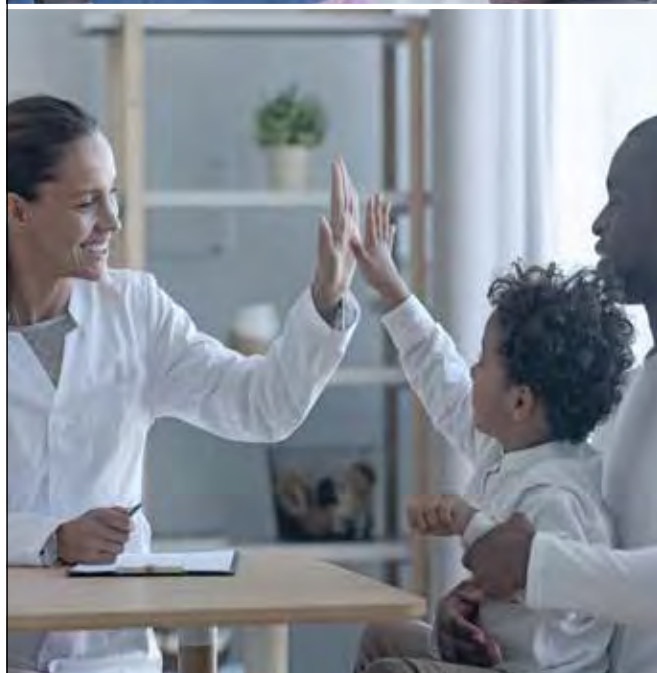
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Honoring Award Winners:

**Vincent Tedesco, Murray Pasternack '60,
Professor Allison Puff and Don Mahalli '21**



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Congratulations to

PROFESSOR ALLISON PUFF
a true faculty leader

and

Congratulations to the Ram's Horn Award for Corporate Leadership
Vincent Tedesco, Total Technology Solutions

the President's Award for Alumni Leadership

MURRAY PASTERNAK '60

the President's Award for Student Leadership

DON MAHALLI '21

President's Gala



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Fred Skolnik and his Partners are proud to support the
Farmingdale College Foundation
and congratulate this year's honoree,
Vincent Tedesco
and the President's Award recipients,
as we all emerge stronger.

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Emerging Stronger

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the honorees of the

2021 President's Gala

Vincent Tedesco, Total Technology Solutions

Murray Pasternack '60

Professor Allison Puff

and

Don Mahalli '21

Thank you for all you do for Farmingdale State College

President's Gala



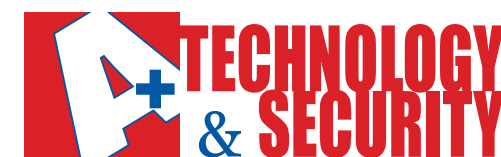
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JUNE 6, 2022

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Professor Allison Puff, The President's Award for Faculty Leadership
Don Mahalli '21, The President's Award for Student Leadership

Congratulations & Best Wishes

to all the Honorees

Vincent Tedesco
Murray Pasternack '60
Professor Allison Puff
Don Mahalli '21

Celebrating your special award and commitment to FSC!!

Susan Ring '77

President's Gala



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Congratulations to this year's honoree, well deserved.

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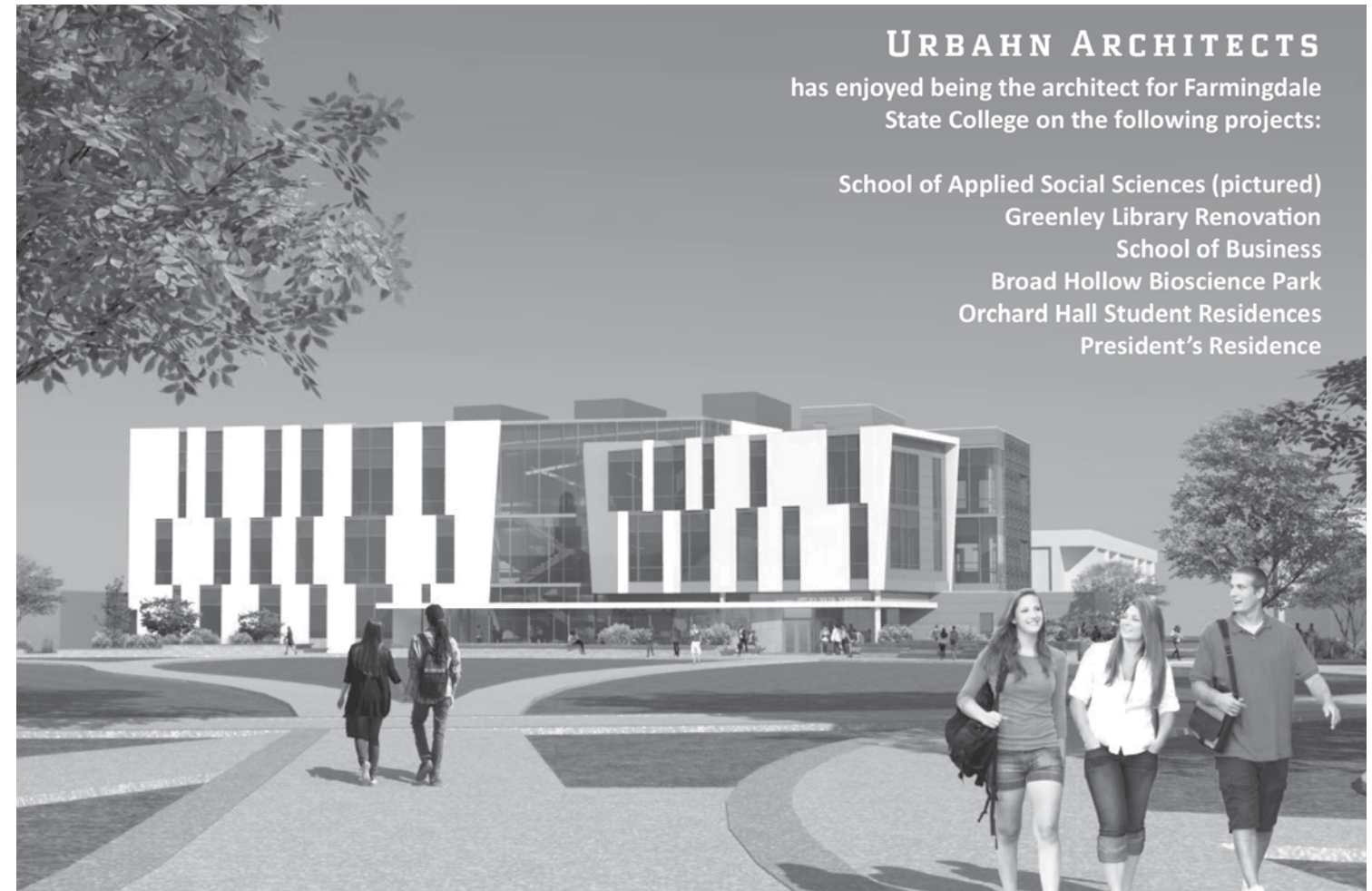
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Congratulations and Appreciation to Dr. Nader, the Administration, Staff and Students for their superb attention and continued service to keeping our campus healthy and safe throughout the challenging COVID pandemic.

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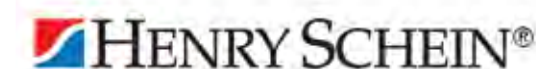
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Congratulate

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