



July 1, 2016

Endicott College has been voted one of the best places to work by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* for six years in a row. Perhaps one of the reasons is the unique sense of community within its staff that results from regular community meetings.

Endicott has a number of regular events that bring together all full and part-time employees of the College in order to be updated, give input, or celebrate in each other's company. These include:

- Start of Year Orientation: At the end of August all employees gather for several hours to kick off the school year, hear updates, meet new employees, and gather for lunch.
- All Campus January Meeting: In January all employees gather for the morning to hear updates. In addition, this meeting generally has some small group discussions on a relevant topic. For example, in January 2015 all College employees discuss student retention. The meeting is followed by lunch.
- Community Day: In the week after commencement, all employees participate in Community Day during which a variety of activities are offered. These include activities such as a golf tournament, fishing, paddle boarding, bike riding, and sitting on the local beach. Employees then gather for lunch.
- Community Meetings: All staff meetings are held monthly for 1 hour to provide updates on current issues and events.

These monthly community meetings and semi-annual community days are innovative ways to bring the college community (staff and faculty) together. Through these gatherings members of the community are able to interact with each other to discuss events, programs and happenings put on by the college. These meetings place emphasis on interdepartmental collaboration and strive to create cohesion within the Endicott community.

In my professional opinion, as a former Vice President of the Forum Corporation and management consultant, the fact that the Endicott community comes together so often is unique for an organization of its size.

Sincerely,

Susan Beckmann
Executive Director