

12-11-11 APP

# Brookdale students will assist state TV network

**By Bob Jordan**

Statehouse Bureau

**TRENTON** — Brookdale Community College has agreed to start providing student-created footage and interviews and other services as a satellite news bureau for NJTV, New Jersey's new public television network.

The Middletown school is the only two-year college and is among the first of any college or university in the state to agree to house audio and video equipment within campus broadcast centers in support of NJ Today, the network's nightly newscast.

John Servidio, NJTV's general manager, said the bureaus will enable the network's own reporters as well as on-call students to file breaking news stories. The sites will also provide settings for interviews and will upload story footage.

The other colleges to sign on are Rowan, Stockton and William Paterson. There are no payments

involved, with the schools typically receiving three on-air promotional mentions each time material is used on the air, Servidio said.

Montclair State University became the broadcast home of NJ Today last month.

William Toms, Brookdale's interim president, said the agreement will provide "practical training and real-world experience for our students as they produce stories that highlight regional and local events for an established news organization. This training will serve them well as they enter the job market."

Servidio said he's impressed with what's already being produced by Brookdale and the other schools.

"When I talk to stu-

dents at the various schools I am constantly amazed how much they know about every platform there is. They've got the tools at the schools to learn, and I give the professors a lot of credit. The students really know how to tell a story, know how to shoot it and produce it, and because they're young they're willing to take chances on new ways to tell the story," he said.

Brian Williams, the anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News, is a former Brookdale student.

*Bob Jordan 609-984-4343,  
bjordan@njpress  
media.com*