PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH
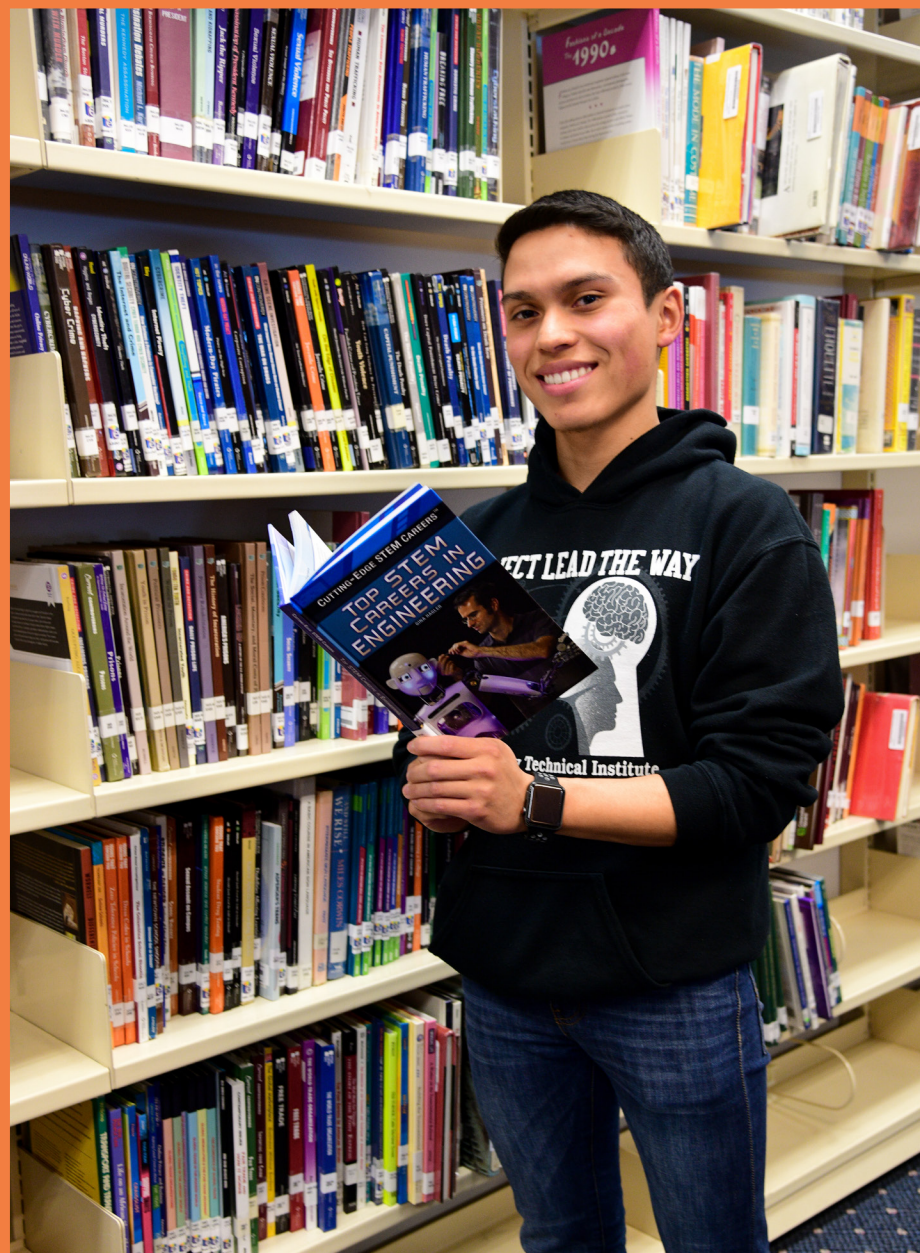
March 2018

A Perpetual Learner
JUAN ESCUDERO

Juan Escudero's profound interest in math and science made his choice to become a member of the School of Engineering Technology an easy one. This young man from Paterson prides himself on being at the helm of technological advancement. "I really enjoy learning, Computers, in particular, change the way we live our lives." Juan goes on to explain that the unique experience of developing computers, and making them better for the future, appeals to him the most. "Taking something that exists and using it to create something newer, better, is the definition of innovation."

Juan has much experience in improving on existing designs. As proof, he acted as the lead presenter, spokesperson, and team coordinator for the NASA Hunch Engineering initiative, which saw that he and his team designed a "can squisher" device. He also served as the Team Leader for the SkillsUSA Mobile Robotics competition. In addition to these activities, Juan was selected for the World Language Honor Society, NJ Boys State, National Honor Society, as well as PCTI's Circle of Success. He even received the AP & Project Lead the Way Achievement Award in Engineering - a distinction he earned for passing his AP Physics C test.

Juan has also been involved in ERASE, Engineering Club, and Gifted & Talented. His extremely busy schedule has ensured impeccable time management skills. In fact, this academically resilient Bulldog ranks in the top one percent of his class with a GPA of 4.39! He has achieved Principal's Honor Roll throughout his academic career and has the potential to graduate with thirty-three college credits. In his free time, Juan can be found helping his dad out with the family business. His father owns a health store and works as a Notary Public.

When it comes to his education, Juan aims to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering with a minor in Computer Science at Rutgers New Brunswick. "Their engineering program is third in the state," he adds. Looking further towards his academic ambitions, Juan plans on earning a Master's degree in Computer Engineering as well as an MBA.

Juan's ambition in the coming years is a simple one. "I want to focus on happiness," he says. "Throughout my PCTI career I set the bar really high for performance, but I began to realize that performance isn't what defines you as a person. Having good character and being a good person is the most important."

Congratulations to a talented young man whose drive and determination have paved the way for success!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranks in the top 1% of his class
- Will graduate with a potential 33 college credits
- Selected for WLHS, NHS, NJ Boys State, Circle of Success
- Involved in ERASE, Engineering Club, Gifted & Talented
- Received AP Achievement Award in Engineering
- Goal: Graduate from Rutgers New Brunswick with a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering and a minor in Computer Science, pursue Master's degree in Computer Engineering as well as MBA