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**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SECURES \$200,000 FOR
GREEN TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE THROUGH
CONGRESSMAN STEVE ISRAEL**

Brentwood, NY – Suffolk County Community College’s Interim President, George Gatta, Jr. and Congressman Steve Israel recently announced \$200,000 in new federal funding to institute a Green Technology Workforce Initiative the College. These funds will be used to build on the College’s existing partnerships with the Small Business Administration and Empire State Development Corporation to offer green technology workforce training targeted to the Brentwood community.

Interim President Gatta commented, “By helping to cultivate eco-friendly jobs through targeted workforce training, the College is helping to advance and improve our community, our region and our environment.”

The Green Technology Workforce Initiative will consist of three components targeting new entrepreneurs, existing entrepreneurs interested in opportunities within emerging green technology fields, and area high school students interested in developing a small business focused on green technologies.

The three specific program components related to the Green Technology Workforce Initiative are as follows:

Conference on Green Business Opportunities - A one-day conference in partnership with the Hauppauge Industrial Association and LIPA targeted to current and potential Latino business owners in order to present opportunities to start or expand a business to meet the growing demand for green technologies and energy efficiencies. Workshops conducted in Spanish and English will be offered throughout the conference.

Spanish Entrepreneurial Assistance Program - This program will offer business assistance to new and aspiring entrepreneurs and will be taught in Spanish. Through classroom instruction, peer support groups and business mentoring, the program will teach Spanish-speaking participants business skills and how to develop a business plan before starting their business.

Youth Entrepreneurial Summer Camp for Green Technologies - Partnering with instructors from Brookhaven National Lab, to the College will offer a two-week intensive summer program for students ages 13-16 aimed at providing them with a solid business background and understanding of emerging green technologies. The camp will demystify business concepts, making it fun for students interested in starting, managing and growing a small business.

The \$200,000 in new federal funding was requested by Congressman Israel as part of the fiscal year 2010 Financial Services Appropriations Act, which passed as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act that President Obama signed into law on December 16, 2009.

“Turning our economy around depends on our ability to create new careers in growing industries. Suffolk County Community College’s Green Technology Workforce Initiative will help expand green businesses, train a green workforce and ensure that we excel in the energy sector right here on Long Island,” said Congressman Israel.



Photo Caption: Suffolk County Community College’s Interim President, George Gatta, Jr. (third from the right) and Congressman Steve Israel (left) join local community leaders to discuss the \$200,000 in federal funding allocated to the College’s Green Technology Workforce Initiative.

About Suffolk County Community College

Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) is the largest community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system, enrolling more than 25,000 students at its three campuses in Selden, Brentwood and Riverhead. SCCC offers the Associate in Arts (A.A.), Associate in Science (A.S.), and Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degrees, as well as a variety of certificate programs. Offering the lowest college tuition on Long Island, a highly respected Honors program, extensive extracurricular activities, championship athletic teams, and numerous unified transfer programs, SCCC is a first-choice college for Long Island students. Visit us online at sunysuffolk.edu.

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