

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE RECEIVES NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT**

Selden, NY – The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded a grant of \$600,000 from September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2016 to Suffolk County Community College for a project entitled "*STEMS II Program for Suffolk County Community College.*" Under the direction of the grant's Principal Investigator (PI), Dr. Candice J. Foley, and Co-PI's Dean Nina Leonhardt, Dr. Jean Anastasia, Professor Peter Maritato and Dr. Janet Haff, the primary goal of the STEMS II (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Scholarship) Program will be to provide scholarships and to recruit and mentor academically talented, financially needy students through to completion of their associate's degree in the STEM disciplines. The College has had three National Science Foundation grants to support scholarships for science and engineering undergraduate students since 2001, and is the only community college in the State University of New York system to have a NSF scholarship program funded continuously for more than 10 years.

Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) will be providing 140 STEM scholarships to students from multiple STEM disciplines. The goal is to graduate and transfer more STEM students by expanding the existing program, increasing the use of technology to expand collaborative partnerships, and enhancing peer mentoring. Participants receive financial aid, transfer and career counseling, internships, job shadowing, partner institution tours, and invited speaker presentations. The project aims to: (1) Integrate research and education with experiences at SCCC, Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) and Stony Brook University (SBU), and (2) Integrate diversity into NSF Programs by recruiting students in programs for underrepresented populations, including the Collegiate Science and Technology Education Program (CSTEP), Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP), Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP) and Empire State Diversity Scholarship (ESDS) program.

### **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 approximately 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 [www.sunysuffolk.edu](http://www.sunysuffolk.edu).

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