

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Mary M. Feder, Director of College Relations  
Suffolk County Community College  
(631) 451-4256  
[federm@sunysuffolk.edu](mailto:federm@sunysuffolk.edu)

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROFESSOR RECEIVES  
INTERNATIONAL BERKLEY ESSAY PRIZE IN PHILOSOPHY**

Selden, NY – Suffolk County Community College Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, Thomas Curtin, was recently announced as the winner of the 2013 Colin and Ailsa Turbayne International Berkeley Essay Prize Competition for his essay “Berkeley's Conception of Causal Power.”

Essays were required to be new and unpublished, written in English and not exceed 5,000 words in length. All references to Berkeley were directed to be to Luce/Jessop, and a MLA or similar standard for notes was followed. Submissions were blind reviewed and judged by members of a review board selected by the Department of Philosophy at the University of Rochester. One winner was selected.

Some years before their deaths, Professor and Mrs. Colin Turbayne established an International Berkeley Essay Prize competition in cooperation with the Philosophy Department at the University of Rochester. A highly popular teacher of philosophy, the late Professor Turbayne is often described by former students as a "consummate teacher" who made a lasting impression on them. He was also one of the most prolific and influential scholars of George Berkeley, the 18th Century Irish philosopher. Turbayne is perhaps best known as the author of the classic treatise, *The Myth of Metaphor*, first published by Yale University Press in 1962. Professor Turbayne's devotion to advancing understanding of Berkeley is reflected in the numerous articles he authored, his producing six major editions of Berkeley's works, and the creation and funding of the International Berkeley Essay Prize.

Thomas Curtin is a recent Ph.D. graduate from Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. He has a Masters of Arts in Philosophy from University of London, Birkbeck College and a Bachelors of Arts in Philosophy from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He specializes in the history of modern philosophy and the philosophy of religion, especially 18th century philosophy of religion. Curtin is currently an Adjunct Instructor in the Ammerman Campus philosophy department, having started teaching at Suffolk County Community College in the spring 2012 semester.

Dr. Lowell Kleiman, Academic Chair for Suffolk County Community College's Philosophy Department said, “On behalf of the department, we would like to congratulate Tom on receiving this prestigious and significant award. We are fortunate to have him in our department and gain insights from his hard work, talents and skills.”

**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 26,000 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 affordable college tuition, a highly respected Honors program, extensive extracurricular activities, championship athletic teams, and numerous transfer programs, SCCC is a first-choice college for Long Island students. Visit us online at [sunysuffolk.edu](http://sunysuffolk.edu).

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