

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 22, 2012**

No. 43/11-12

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Mary M. Feder, Director of College Relations  
Suffolk County Community College  
(631) 451-4256  
federem@sunysuffolk.edu

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S ALBERTO CATANO WINS  
MEN'S 200 BACKSTROKE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Brentwood, NY – Suffolk County Community College first year student-athlete, Alberto Catano, of Ronkonkoma, recently represented the College at the NJCAA Men's Swimming and Diving National Championship at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce, Florida. With a first-place finish in the Men's 200 Backstroke, Mr. Catano was named national champion.

Dr. Shaun L. McKay, President of Suffolk County Community College said, "The mission of Suffolk County Community College is to promote intellectual discovery as well as physical development. Alberto Catano is successfully mastering both aspects of his life and should be commended for his outstanding performance and the ongoing dedication it takes to become a national champion."

Mr. Catano started swimming competitively at the age of 8. He attended Connetquot High School where he still holds six of the high school's current individual records, as well as two relay records. As a high school junior, Mr. Catano placed fourth in New York State in the 200 freestyle. He also made Junior Nationals in 2009.

Carlington Simms, Head Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Coach at Suffolk County Community College, stated, "We are so proud of Alberto. He is a tremendous athlete and a dedicated student. We know we will see more great achievements from him in the future."

"I am so pleased to represent Suffolk County Community College. Without the support of my family and Coach Simms, I would not have been able to get as far as I did in this competition." said Mr. Catano.



**Photo Caption: Suffolk County Community College student-athlete, Alberto Catano (center), of Ronkonkoma, recently won first place in the NJCAA Men's 200 Backstroke event and became a national champion. He is pictured with Carlington Simms, Head Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Coach at Suffolk County Community College (left), and Jennifer Scott, Suffolk County Community College's Assistant Men's and Women's Swimming Coach (right).**

#### **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).

###