



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 34/10-11

March 16, 2011

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Mary M. Feder, Director of College Relations

Suffolk County Community College

(631) 451-4256

federm@sunysuffolk.edu

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE UNVEILS NEW "GREEN" MONTAUKETT LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER ON EASTERN CAMPUS IN RIVERHEAD

## SUNY Chancellor, Elected Officials and Business Leaders Join the Celebration

Riverhead, NY – At a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Shaun L. McKay, President of Suffolk County Community College, joined state and local elected officials and SUNY Chancellor Dr. Nancy L. Zimpher to celebrate the opening of the Montaukett Learning Resource Center on the College's Eastern Campus in Riverhead.

This new 40,000-square-foot building, designed by JCJ Architects and constructed by E.W. Howell, is at the center of the campus and includes a state-of-the-art library, a large lecture hall, computer classrooms, distance learning classrooms, the Academic Skills Center, gallery space and varied learning spaces for students to pursue collaborative and independent study.

The building is currently tracking toward the "Gold" LEED certification rating. Created by the U.S. Green Building Council, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) sets construction standards for energy efficiency, sparing water usage, and other healthful and nonpolluting attributes. LEED certification is only awarded to the top 25 percent of environmentally responsible buildings. This will be the first LEED certified building on the College's Eastern Campus.

It is customary for the College to designate campus buildings using names that acknowledge local Native American culture or local historic or geographic origins. Among the names proposed for the new building by the Eastern Campus college community, was the Montaukett Learning Resource Center. This designation was endorsed by the College in recognition of an Algonquian-speaking Native American people who lived for thousands of years on the eastern end of Long Island. Today, the Montauk Nation claims more than 500 members on its tribal roll.

During the ceremony, Dr. McKay noted, "The Montaukett Learning Resource Center will create an unparalleled environment in which students and community members can learn, grow and succeed together."



Photo Caption: SUNY Chancellor Dr. Nancy L. Zimpher (center left) and Suffolk County Community College President Dr. Shaun L. McKay (center right) are joined by elected officials and business leaders as Suffolk County Community College unveils its new "green" Montaukett Learning Resource Center on the Eastern Campus in Riverhead.

## **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.

###