

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****October 20, 2005****Corning Community College's Major Gifts Campaign Receives Funding for Infrastructure Improvements**

Corning Community College's Development Foundation has announced that its first-ever Major Gifts Campaign, *From Past to Future Generations...Investing in a Strong Community*, has secured over \$2,000,000 from early lead gifts restricted for infrastructure improvements. Contributions were received from Chemung Canal Trust Company, Corning Incorporated Foundation, several additional banks and companies and a host of private individuals. The community phase of the Campaign will continue through September 30, 2006 and include participation from alumni, individuals, foundations and corporate contributors over a five-year pledge period.

Corning Community College's Spencer Hill main campus was built in the early 1960s. Since then the College has been successful in maintaining an impressive environment, conducive to learning and safe for all who use it. Forty years later, however, it is apparent that many of the facilities require attention. One of the primary objectives of the CCC Development Foundation's Major Gifts Campaign is to provide the necessary local matching funds required to capitalize on the availability of New York State funds.

Investments to date will allow the College to reconstruct the perimeter road on the Spencer Hill main campus which will improve pedestrian safety; convert traditional classrooms into enhanced instructional spaces with current technology and updated furniture; replace roofs, some windows and elevators; and technologically upgrade much of the mechanical systems required for the campus to function efficiently.

More specifically, the stage area in the Science Amphitheatre, often used for theatrical performances, lectures and other presentations is the only raised stage on campus and has been in need of repair for several years. Chemung Canal Trust Company pledged, over a five-year period, enough money to claim the available matching funds from the State, the total of which will repair the structure of the stage and assure its continued use as a vital instruction and performance venue.

Jan Updegraff, President and CEO of Chemung Canal Trust Company, stated, "Corning Community College is a tremendous asset to our community and we are proud to be among the leaders in our support of this Campaign."

As of September 30, 2005, the Campaign total was \$3,025,000 from private sources including one hundred percent participation by the CCC Regional Board of Trustees, Development Foundation board members, and Alumni Association board members. Combined with the availability of state matching funds for portions of private sources, over \$5,500,000 raised to date indicates that the Foundation's goal of \$7,000,000 is attainable.

In January, the CCC Development Foundation, a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation, launched the Major Gifts Campaign to help the region resolve challenges and capitalize on opportunities. The Campaign offers an opportunity to invest in the future of our region by increasing access and opportunity, providing seed money to initiate new programs, and to enhance quality of life.

Initiatives include *Access and Opportunity*: Outreach and Scholarships; *Program Growth and Development*: New Program Development and Technology Upgrades; *Community Enrichment/Quality of Life*: Infrastructure and Visiting Scholar Series. These initiatives will allow CCC to complete many of the infrastructure projects identified in the 2003-2008 Facilities Master Plan including a new perimeter road, classroom conversions to upgrade instructional technology and the learning environment, new elevators and roofs.

For additional information, please call (607) 974-6011.