TUNXIS GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATES LIBRARY AND CLASSROOM BUILDING

FARMINGTON—Tunxis Community College will host a groundbreaking ceremony celebrating both a new Library and Classroom Building on May 15 at 10 a.m., adjacent to the College’s construction site in Tunxis courtyard.

Tunxis has for many years had the smallest footprint (assignable space per student) of any college in New England. The $34.4 million construction project will double the size of the existing College. Completion is expected in fall 2007.

“We have been looking forward to this campus expansion for a very long time and are convinced that the service and facilities we can offer Tunxis students will be greatly enhanced by the new facilities,” said President Cathryn L. Addy, Ph.D.

Speakers at the groundbreaking ceremony will include Governor M. Jodi Rell; Connecticut Department of Public Works Commissioner James T. Fleming; President Addy; Chancellor Marc S. Herzog, Connecticut Community College System; and Dr. Louise S. Berry, chair, Board of Trustees of Connecticut Community-Technical Colleges.

“This expansion project will create a much-needed modern library, with substantial classroom space and science laboratories,” said Fleming. “The first phase of this expansion is an impressive rebirth for the College, and one that will benefit the entire region as well.”

The project includes 95,000 square feet of new space consisting of a new 30,000 square foot library and a 65,000 square foot classroom building. The new Tunxis Library will be built at the former site of Fisher Hall, which has been demolished as part of this project. The greatly expanded library facility will also feature two computer classrooms and 14 study rooms.

The new Classroom Building will consist of five science laboratories for biology, chemistry, microbiology, and physics; a dental hygiene suite and laboratory; computer graphics studios; art and photography studios; six classrooms, eight break-out rooms, and academic resource space. The existing Tunxis Library on the opposite end of the courtyard will become study space.

The architect for the project is DuBose Associates, Inc., of Hartford, the contractor is M.A. Angelides, Inc., of Trumbull, and the construction administrator is FIP Construction of Cheshire.

Tunxis Community College originally opened its doors in October 1970 with 494 students. Today the College serves over 7,500 students each year and provides an array of educational services and degree programs including courses in the fine arts, business, liberal arts & sciences, marketing, communication, dental hygiene and assisting, computer information systems, criminal justice, early childhood education, human services, engineering, and technology.

The Connecticut Department of Public Works is responsible for the design and construction of major capital building projects (except highways and bridges) for most state agencies, leasing and acquisitions statewide, and facility management, maintenance and security of state buildings in the greater Hartford area.

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