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## **TUNXIS RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATES NEW CLASSROOM BUILDING AND LIBRARY**

Tunxis Community College, joined by Governor M. Jodi Rell, state officials, and others from the Connecticut Community College system, celebrated the opening of a new, \$34.4 million classroom building and library at a groundbreaking ceremony in the new Tunxis Library on February 21.

“Not only are we cutting the ribbon on a beautiful new building on this vital and growing campus, we are really celebrating a new focus on higher education in Connecticut,” Governor Rell said in her remarks. “We hear so often that there are no ‘magic bullets’ for the problems of our society. Yet when I come to places like Tunxis and the other community colleges around our state, or when I visit the four Connecticut State University campuses or the UConn campuses or the elementary and secondary schools in our state, I wonder if that’s really true. If education is not a magic bullet – if lifelong learning is not the cure to so many problems – it is surely the best answer we have.”

The two buildings add 95,000 square feet of space, and provide some breathing room and pleasing enhancements to study, studio and social space on campus. The new 65,000-square-foot Classroom Building consists of an expanded Academic Support Center; cyber café; art gallery; five science laboratories for biology, chemistry, microbiology, and physics; a simulated dental clinic; computer graphics studios; art and photography studios; six classrooms, eight break-out rooms, and academic resource space. The larger two-story, 30,000-square-foot library includes computer classrooms and expanded study space for students. Adjacent to the library is a 40-seat classroom and a coffee/sandwich bar.

Tunxis Community College originally opened its doors in Farmington in October 1970 with 494 students. Today the College serves close to 12,000 credit and non-credit students each year and provides an array of educational services and degree programs including courses in fine arts, business, liberal arts & sciences, marketing, dental hygiene and assisting, computer information systems, criminal justice, early childhood education, human services, engineering, and technology.



*L to R with President Cathryn L. Addy, Ph.D. and Gov. M. Jodi Rell (both in center, holding scissors) are: Sen. Tom Colapietro, D-Bristol; John Smith, president of Tunxis Community College Foundation and Advisory Board, Inc.; Lenell Kittlitz, director of facilities planning, CT Community College System; John Lodovico, Tunxis director of facilities; Congressman Chris Murphy, (CT-5); Rep. Betty Boukus, D-Plainville; Dr. Louise S. Berry, chair, Board of Trustees of Connecticut Community-Technical Colleges; Rep. John Piscopo, R-Thomaston; and Commissioner Raeanne V. Curtis, Connecticut Department of Public Works.*