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TC3 President Supports Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act

DRYDEN, N.Y. – The Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act proposed by New York Governor David Paterson has the support of Tompkins Cortland Community College President Carl Haynes. The act, included as part of the governor's 2010-11 executive budget, provides the State University of New York (SUNY) and its campuses more flexibility and responsibility over its own finances. As part of the SUNY system, TC3 is supportive of the proposal.

"Tuition guidelines, especially in light of continuing state aid cuts, will give us some clarity and predictability in terms of funding in the future," said Haynes. "I hope this gets approved. This would be great for SUNY."

The bill is multifaceted, with components including implementing a tuition policy under the auspices of the SUNY Board of Trustees, land use and public-private partnerships that enable campuses to be entrepreneurial, and streamlined operational and procurement practices. It also authorizes the state dormitory authority to finance the construction of residence halls on community college campuses.

"Public higher education needs the kind of flexibility and latitude that this proposal provides," said Haynes. "The measures included in this proposal are long overdue."

The news release from the governor's office announcing the proposal can be found at:

http://www.state.ny.us/governor/press/press_01191002.html