

John E. Finch, a staunch supporter of higher education and community colleges, was appointed to the SUNY Ulster Board of Trustees in 1991 by Governor Cuomo. During his tenure, he held positions of leadership including Secretary, a position he held from 1994 to 1999. In 1999, Mr. Finch was designated Trustee Emeritus for his dedicated service to the Board which he rendered with the utmost devotion, wisdom, and integrity for the good and welfare of the College and its students.

Mr. Finch's participation in community life is evidenced by the lengthy list of area boards and service organizations that he has served on, including the Mid-Hudson Region American Heart Association, the Senate House Advisory Board, and the Children's Home of Kingston. He is a life-time member of Kingston Kiwanis. Mr. Finch also served Ulster County as a five-term member of the Ulster County Legislature from 1982 through 1991, preceded by 12 years as an Alderman on the City of Kingston Common Council where he was the Council's Majority Leader from 1978 to 1981.

Mr. Finch, a superior educator for almost 40 years, was an elementary school teacher in the Kerhonkson School District and a social studies teacher and elementary school principal in Kingston City Schools. He is a graduate of the State University of New York at New Paltz holding a Masters of Science Degree in Educational Administration. He resides in Kingston, NY, where he has been the owner of Finch Real Estate since 1987.

Mr. Finch's interest in enhancing the future of higher education in New York State and the growth of SUNY Ulster County Community College has always been a top priority. He has consistently promoted the College to prospective students and has lobbied aggressively for continued funding of the College's proposed operating budgets submitted to the Ulster County Legislature. He has shown a commitment to leadership, service and community colleges, both during and beyond his tenure as a SUNY Ulster Trustee.