

## Connecticut Community Colleges

### Board of Trustees Members

May 2009

**Timothy Ackert** of Coventry is the owner of Ackert Electric, an electrical contracting firm serving residential and commercial clients in northeastern Connecticut. Mr. Ackert is also a Managing Member of Four T Realty in Coventry, a property management firm that has revitalized an 1880's mill as rental space. He serves as a Continuing Education Instructor for Independent Electrical Contractors of New England. Mr. Ackert was appointed to the Board of Trustees by Governor M. Jodi Rell in April, 2007. His civic involvement includes serving as Vice Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Adjutant of the American Legion Post 52, membership in the Coventry Village Main Street Partnership and the Village Improvement Society. He was previously a member and past president of the CT Junior Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Ackert is a veteran of the United States Air Force.

**Dr. Murali Atluru** of North Haven is a consulting engineer and founder of Diversified Technology Consultants, one of the state's largest engineering consulting firms. Dr. Atluru earned bachelor and master degrees in Civil Engineering in India where he taught for seven years at the State College of Engineering. He earned a Ph.D. from West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, after coming to the United States to further his education and pursue business interests. During his confirmation hearing with the General Assembly, Dr. Atluru spoke of his commitment to developing leadership and technical skills among the youth of Connecticut especially in the areas of engineering and the sciences. Dr. Atluru was appointed to the Board of Trustees in March 2000 and now serves as Chair of the Board's Finance, Budget and Facilities Committee. He also chaired the Board's search committees for the presidents of Three Rivers Community College in 2001, Housatonic Community College in 2007, and Naugatuck Valley Community College in 2008.

**Hilary Chittenden Barhydt**, of Litchfield, was appointed to the Board of Trustees by Governor M. Jodi Rell in June, 2006. Ms. Barhydt earned her Master's degree in American Studies from Trinity College, Hartford, and her Bachelor's from Connecticut College, New London. She is a secondary school teacher at Forman School in Litchfield, teaching American History & Strategies Instruction. In addition she coaches Girls' Varsity Lacrosse, manages the yearbook program, sits on several school committees, and participated in implementing and coordinating the computer lab, including research of new technology for the lab and instructing faculty and students in the new technologies. Ms. Barhydt is also Director of a large girls' camp in Maine, the oldest girls' camp in the U.S., managing and overseeing all aspects of its administration. Ms. Barhydt is active in the community and serves on a number of committees at St. Michael's Church, as well as the Mt. Tom Association Board, and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**Louise S. Berry**, of Danielson, was first appointed to the Board of Trustees in 1991 by Governor Lowell P. Weicker. She was reappointed to a second term in 1997 by Gov. John Rowland. In August, 2004, Mrs. Berry was appointed to her third term on the Board and was selected Chair by Governor M. Jodi Rell. She has also served as Vice Chair, Secretary, and Interim Chair of the Board, as well as Vice Chair of the Board's Personnel

Committee. Mrs. Berry is a former State Senator from the 29th District and former candidate for Secretary of State. She is currently Superintendent of Schools for the Brooklyn, CT School System. She holds a B.A., an M.A. and a J.D. degree from the University of Connecticut and has served as president of the University's Alumni Association and as an alumnae trustee of the University. In 1995, Mrs. Berry received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Alumni Association in recognition of her outstanding achievements. Mrs. Berry has also been active over the course of many years in the civic and community affairs of northeastern Connecticut and, along with her late husband, was instrumental in the founding of Quinebaug Valley Community College and has continued to be an active member of their Foundation.

**David Blackwell, Esq.**, of Manchester, was appointed to the Board of Trustees in July of 2003 by Governor John G. Rowland and currently serves as Secretary of the Board. Mr. Blackwell is a former member of the Connecticut General Assembly, who served on numerous committees during his two terms. He practices law with the firm of Blackwell, Davis & Spadaccini and formerly worked as an attorney with Travelers Property Casualty Corp. Mr. Blackwell is also on the staff of CULI (Connecticut Urban Legal Initiative, Inc.). He is a graduate of the UConn School of Law, holds a B.A. from CCSU and an MPA from the University of Hartford where he served as a Woodruff Fellow. Mr. Blackwell is a member of the Manchester Republican Town Committee, an advisor to the Manchester Community College Policy Institute, a member of the Advisory Council to the Corporation for Supportive Housing, a former Trustee of the Lutz Children's Museum, and a former member of the Manchester Housing Commission.

**Reverend David L. Cannon**, retired pastor of St. James Episcopal Church in Preston, was first appointed to membership on the Board of Trustees of Regional Community Colleges in 1978 by Governor Ella T. Grasso; he was first appointed Chair of the Board by Governor William A. O'Neill in 1982 and was reappointed to the Chairmanship by Governor Lowell Weicker. Father Cannon led the Board during the consolidation of the Community Colleges with the State Technical Colleges under a single Board in 1989 and through the merger of the colleges themselves to form comprehensive institutions in 1992. He continued as Chairman of the Board until April 1995. Father Canon holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts, and a Master's degree from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

**Darcy Clifford** was elected as Student Trustee in October, 2008. Darcy attends Norwalk Community College, majoring in Liberal Arts & Science with a concentration in math and science. Darcy plans to transfer to a four-year institution upon completion of her associate's degree, pursuing environmental science and physics, with a minor in political science. Darcy is presently Vice President of NCC's Student Government Association, a member and officer of Phi Theta Kappa, and a representative on the College Senate. In addition, Darcy is a student representative on the college's Green Committee and an active volunteer in many environmental initiatives.

**Hugh Cox** of Middletown was appointed by Governor M. Jodi Rell in the Fall of 2004. Mr. Cox is the retired President and CEO of Raymond Engineering, Inc., a subsidiary of Kaman Corporation and he has been a long-time supporter and Foundation member for Middlesex Community College in Middletown. Since his retirement, Mr. Cox is involved with numerous organizations and volunteer projects throughout Middlesex County. In addition to being an

active member of Middlesex's fundraising advisory board, he is also involved with the Valley Railroad Company of Essex, Connecticut, the Lawrence School Building Committee, and the Long Hill Estate Authority. Mr. Cox was also appointed by Governor Rell to serve on the Governor's Task Force on Contracting Reform. Mr. Cox is a graduate of the University of Connecticut where he has been active on behalf of various university alumni groups, especially those associated with the Engineering Department. He has been recognized as a Founding Fellow, Academy for Distinguished Engineers and Hall of Fame, for his "outstanding contribution to Engineering technology, innovation, education, and research."

**Ronald Gambardella** was appointed to the Board of Trustees in April, 2009 by Governor M. Jodi Rell. Presently a financial consultant in Hamden, Mr. Gambardella previously served as a financial manager for SBC, Inc. (SNET) in New Haven for nearly 20 years. He is a member of the National and Connecticut associations of Enrolled Agents and has licenses in NASD Series, Life/Health/Accident, Variable Annuities, as well as the Enrolled Agent Tax Accounting Certification. Mr. Gambardella is involved in local politics in Hamden and served on the Hamden Town Council for two terms. He earned his MBA in Finance from the University of New Haven and his BS at Southern Connecticut State University.

**Wallace Irish** was appointed to the Board of Trustees by Governor M. Jodi Rell July 1, 2009. He is a lifelong resident of Manchester and has been involved in many community organizations from chairing the annual peach festival and Manchester's bicentennial parade to serving as president of the Exchange Club and on Manchester's Board of Directors, to name a few. He was a volunteer firefighter, officer, assistant fire marshal and deputy chief of the Manchester Fire Department for almost 30 years. Mr. Irish is president of the W.J. Irish Insurance Agency. He has served as president of the Manchester Association of Independent Insurance Agents, state director of Professional Insurance Agents of CT and was also appointed by Gov. Rell to the State Insurance & Risk Management Board. Mr. Irish was in the CT Army National Guard from 1966 to 1973 and served as platoon leader and executive officer in various units. He attended Manchester Community College and Central CT State University.

**Jules Lang, Esq.**, of Norwalk, was first appointed to the Board of Trustees of Regional Community Colleges in 1977 by Governor Ella Grasso. He is an attorney who practices in Norwalk where he has long been active in civic and community affairs. He served six years on the Norwalk Board of Education, including one term as Chairman, and seven years on the Board of Estimate and Taxation, including one year as chair. He also served as a member of the Norwalk Drug Abuse Council for 14 years. Mr. Lang, formerly Secretary and Vice Chair of the Board, is a graduate of the University of Connecticut, the University of Michigan, and New York University. Currently, Mr. Lang is Chair of the Board's Personnel Committee.

**William McGurk** was appointed to the Board of Trustees in March, 2005 by Governor M. Jodi Rell. Mr. McGurk has served as President and CEO of the Rockville Bank since 1980. He previously was Vice President, Treasurer, and CEO of the Clinton Savings Bank, and Vice President of the City Savings Bank, both in Massachusetts. He has been President of the CT Community Bankers Association and also currently serves as Vice Chair of the Eastern CT Health Network. Mr. McGurk has served on the Manchester Community College Foundation Board since 1988 and was its Treasurer from 1993 to 1999. His many contributions to MCC were acknowledged by a Board of Trustees Merit Award in 2003.

Over the years, Mr. McGurk has been an Ambassador of the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce, Executive Committee Member and Treasurer of Rockville General Hospital, Chair of the New England College of Finance and a recipient of their McLaughlin Award, member of the Diocese of Norwich Haitian Ministries Board, and Chair of the Bankers Advisory Board of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors. He received his BA from the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts and his MBA from the University of Massachusetts. He is a retired Captain in the United States Naval Reserve, having served active duty on destroyers and eight tours as a Unit Commanding Officer.

**Carolyn McKenna** was appointed to the Board of Trustees in April, 2007 by Governor M. Jodi Rell. Ms. Fabbri is currently the Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs & General Counsel at the Eastern Connecticut Health Network, Inc. in Manchester, CT, providing legal support for a two-hospital health system. She has previously served as Counsel at Cigna Healthcare and Yale New Haven Health Services, and as Associate Counsel at United Healthcare. Ms. Fabbri received her J.D. from the University of Bridgeport School of Law where she was managing editor of the Law Review, and her B.A. from the University of Vermont. She has served as a law clerk for Chief Judge Peter Dorsey and Chief Judge Thomas Meskill. She's a member of the Connecticut and District of Connecticut Bars. She has also taught health law courses at Quinnipiac College School of Law.

**Ababkre Mounir**, a student at Gateway Community College majoring in Computer Science-Networking, was elected to a two-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees in October, 2007. Mr. Mounir, originally from Morocco, came to the United States in 1990 and is now a United States citizen. He enrolled at Gateway CC in 2006 and became active in the Muslim Student Association. He now serves as its President. Ababkre plans to continue his education at the University of New Haven upon his graduation from Gateway.

**Win Oppel**, of Shelton, was appointed to the Board of Trustees in February 2006 by Governor M. Jodi Rell. Mr. Oppel is President of AD-MERICA Corporation, a promotional products distributorship that provides advertising and promotional services for clients throughout the Eastern U.S. Previously, Mr. Oppel was Administrative Assistant and aide to the Mayor of Shelton responsible for Administration, Personnel and Grant Writing during a time of major redevelopment and transition in Shelton. Mr. Oppel received his Bachelor of Science degree from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield having previously attended Housatonic Community College. Mr. Oppel has been involved in many community organizations, serving on the Shelton Board of Education, the Board of Directors of The WorkPlace, Inc., the workforce investment agency in Fairfield County, and in many capacities at Huntington Congregational Church. Additionally, he served on the Connecticut Association of Workforce Development Boards, and he was appointed to the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission in 2000. Mr. Oppel currently serves as Vice Chair of the Board's Academic Policies and Student Affairs Committee

**Laurie A. Roy**, of Burlington, was appointed to the Board of Trustees by Governor M. Jodi Rell in April, 2008. Ms. Roy is the Human Resources Manager for Alcoa Howmet, a division of Alcoa Power & Propulsion in Winsted and their Community Relations Manager. She has also served in Human Resources for B/E Aerospace and CT On-Line Computer Center and as a personnel supervisor in the U.S. Army. Ms. Roy is Vice Chair of the Northwest CT Chamber of Commerce, a member of the CT Business & Industry Association, a member of the Northwest CT Regional Workforce Investment Board, a member and development chair

of the American Mural Project, and a member and past president and vice president of the Society of Human Resources Management. Ms. Roy is a graduate of Charter Oak State College and Northwestern CT Community College.

**Marie M. Spivey**, RN, MPA, is a graduate of the nursing program of the former Greater Hartford Community College, now Capital Community College. She was appointed in 1993 by Governor Weicker as a community college alumna on the Board. She serves as Vice Chair of the Board and Chair of its Academic Policies and Student Affairs Committee. Ms. Spivey is Administrator of Allied Health and Nursing Initiatives for Capital Workforce Partners. She has been a Project Manager for the Community Education division of CREC, Chief Executive Officer of The Learning Corridor, vice president for Community Relations for Hartford Hospital and for CT Health System, Inc. Prior to that, she was Chief of the Bureau of Community Health of the Connecticut Department of Health Services. Her many public service commitments include service as a commissioner of the CT Commission on Health Equity, Vice Chair of the CT Statewide Multicultural Health Partnership, and a member of the Board of Founders for the American Leadership Forum. She is an adjunct Clinical Professor at the University of Connecticut in the departments of pediatrics and community medicine and health care. Ms. Spivey is the recipient of numerous awards and commendations, and continues to serve on Capital Community College's Foundation and Advisory Council.

**Kenneth Wilson, Jr.** of Guilford, was appointed to the Board of Trustees by Governor M. Jodi Rell in February of 2008. Mr. Wilson retired in 2007 as a senior manager at AT&T (formerly SBC/SNET). He began his career at SNET in 1981 and has extensive experience across operations, sales, and customer service activities for business and consumer markets. Over his career he has earned several awards and recognitions, including SBC/SNET Vice President's Circle of Winners, Council of Leaders Award, Customer Excellence, Outstanding Sales Performance and President's Honor Club. In addition, Mr. Wilson has been involved with numerous community and town organizations, including the Guilford Fire Department, the Board of Fire Commissioners, the Board of Parks & Recreation, the Board of Assessment Appeals, the Republican Town Committee, the Rotary Club and more. Mr. Wilson has his B.S. degree from Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, has earned a Sales Management Certificate from Stone School of Business and participated in numerous training programs and seminars.

**Virginia D. Zawoy**, of Clinton, a former First Selectwoman for Clinton from 1985 to 1991, was appointed by Governor Rowland in May of 2000. Mrs. Zawoy retired in 2008 as the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations for the University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut, where she was responsible for advancing financial and community support for the University among corporations, community organizations, and individual donors. Mrs. Zawoy holds a B.A. in Business Administration from New York University, and she is a Board member for organizations such as Old Saybrook's Estuary Transit District, New Haven's Institute for Educational Innovation and West Haven's Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Zawoy serves as Vice Chair of the Finance, Budget and Facilities Committee.