

March 24, 2014

Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo
State of New York
Executive Chamber
Albany, NY 12224

Hon. Sheldon Silver
Room 932 LOB
New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

Hon. Dean Skelos
Room 909 LOB
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Governor Cuomo, Speaker Silver and Majority Leader Skelos:

As you well know, community colleges play an extremely valuable role in providing tens of thousands of students throughout New York State the skills to enter the workforce or continue on to further their degree in higher education.

An emerging curriculum to enhance the skills of community college students is in the area of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) as well as advanced manufacturing (AM) education. That is why we are so excited about the potential opportunities for jobs for community college students at the Science Technology Advanced Manufacturing Park (STAMP) in the town of Alabama in Genesee County.

Community colleges play an integral role in the continuum of local and regional economic development strategies as it pertains to creating essential worker pipeline programs, degrees and strategies for successful outcomes. Such would be the role for our respective institutions as New York State contemplates funding STAMP in order to bring advanced manufacturing facilities to Western New York.

With the emergence of New York's pre-eminence in nanotechnology and the focus on leveraging that success as a result of the thousands of jobs being created across Upstate New York to our region, STAMP can become a reality.

In fact, STAMP has the potential to be a transformative economic development initiative for Western New York and the Finger Lakes regions as it is estimated that onsite employment could be upwards of 10,000 workers with regional employment approaching 50,000 jobs when considering supply chain and construction trades impacts.

On behalf of our respective institutions and our students and future generations of students we urge you to provide the necessary funding for the Science Technology Advanced Manufacturing Park in Genesee County.

We are very grateful for your consideration of our request to support STAMP.



Sincerely,

Jack Quinn
President
Erie Community College

Barbara Risser
President
Finger Lakes Community College

Dr. James Sunser
President
SUNY GCC

Anne M. Kress
President
Monroe Community College

Dr. James P. Klyczek
President
Niagara County Community College