

CELEBRATING THE INAUGURATION OF
EDWARD T. BONAHOUE, PH.D.



AS THE SEVENTH PRESIDENT OF
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

APRIL 8, 2022

Suffolk
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ORDER OF THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Dr. Ed Bonahue is the President of Suffolk County Community College, the largest community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system. SUNY Suffolk is a comprehensive publicly-supported, two-year, open enrollment institution, with campuses in Selden, Riverhead and Brentwood, and downtown centers in Sayville and Riverhead. The college has a current enrollment of more than 23,000 credit students, 7,000 continuing education students, and more than 140,000 alumni.

Dr. Bonahue is a seasoned higher education executive with more than 20 years of experience in community college education, including service as a tenured faculty member and senior executive. Prior to joining the college on June 28, 2021, Dr. Bonahue served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Santa Fe College in Gainesville, Florida. In that role, he provided leadership for planning, management, and assessment of all credit and non-credit instructional programming, and economic and workforce development initiatives. He successfully implemented nine new baccalaureate programs and multiple associate of science degree and certificate programs, as well as two deferred-admission partnerships with the University of Florida. In addition, he served as the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Chair, Department of Humanities and Foreign Languages; Co-chair, International Education Initiative, and he earned tenure as a professor of Humanities and Theatre.

In addition to his administrative experience, Dr. Bonahue's scholarly research on Renaissance literature has appeared in *Studies in Philology*, *Renaissance Papers*, *Studies in English Literature*, and elsewhere, and his work on Stephen Sondheim has been reprinted and cited repeatedly since its first publication. His study on best practices in international education has been published by NASPA, and he has served as Managing Editor of *Shakespeare Quarterly* at the Folger Shakespeare Library. In 2009, Dr. Bonahue was a Fulbright Scholar with the U.S. International Administrators Program in Germany, and in 2016-2017, he was an Aspen Institute College Excellence Program Presidential Fellow. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the HIA-LI (Hauppauge Industrial Association - Long Island).

Dr. Bonahue earned the Ph.D. and M.A. degrees in English literature at the University of North Carolina, and his B.A. in English literature from Wake Forest University. He is also a proud graduate of Ward Melville High School and the Three Village School District.

Platform Party:

College Board of Trustees

Former Presidents

Former Trustees

Program Speakers

Delegates Representing Institutions of Higher Education

Elected Officials Representing Suffolk County

Foundation Board of Directors

Honor Guard:

Student Delegates

AME Delegates

Guild of Administrative Officers and Faculty Delegates

President's Cabinet

Grand Marshal

Chair, College Board of Trustees | SUNY Senior Vice-Chancellor

President Edward T. Bonahue

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY

Call to Ceremony	Suffolk County Police Department Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band
Academic Processional	Al Cofone, Grand Marshal Professor of Sociology
Presentation of Colors	Navy Reserve Center of Long Island Color Guard, Commanding Officer Commander Creighton Ho
Pledge of Allegiance	Nathan Gardner U. S. Air Force Veteran Student Veterans of America President
<i>"The Star-Spangled Banner"</i> E. Sherwin Mackintosh, arr.	College Choir Dr. Alice Cavanaugh, director Dr. Richard Wright, piano
Welcome	Dr. Elizabeth McCormick Associate Professor of English
Land Acknowledgment	Christina Vargas Chief Diversity Officer
Invocation	Chief Harry Wallace Unkechaug Indian Nation
Recognition of Delegates and Honored Guests	Dr. Elizabeth McCormick
Inaugural Poem <i>"A Shared Relief"</i>	Sarah Kain Gutowski Professor of English

The County and the Community Welcomes Dr. Edward T. Bonahue:

Greetings from Suffolk County	Hon. Steve Bellone Suffolk County Executive
Greetings from the Community	Mary Reid, Member Foundation Board of Directors
Representing the Student Body	Zachary Frost Student Trustee
Representing the Foundation, College Alumni and Retirees	Belinda Alvarez-Groneman, Chair Foundation Board of Directors
Representing the College's Employees	Dr. Dante Morelli Professor of Communications
<i>"Sure on This Shining Night"</i> Samuel Barber	Suffolk Singers
Remarks and Investiture of the President	Johanna Duncan-Poitier SUNY Senior Vice-Chancellor, Community Colleges and the Education Pipeline
Presentation of the Presidential Medallion	E. Christopher Murray, Chair College Board of Trustees
Introduction of the President	Theresa Sanders College Board of Trustees
Inaugural Address	Dr. Edward T. Bonahue

*There is no formal recessional.
The audience is asked to remain seated until the platform party has left the stage.
Refreshments will be served immediately following the ceremony.*

HISTORY

On December 18, 1959, Suffolk County Community College of the State University of New York was founded under the administration of a nine-member board of trustees, five appointed by the then County Board of Supervisors and four by the Governor of the State of New York. On October 3, 1960, the college officially opened, occupying temporary facilities at Sagem Junior-Senior High School in Ronkonkoma, as well as part-time facilities at Riverhead High School. Initial enrollment included 171 full-time students and 355 part-time students. As the college began to grow, the Board of Supervisors of Suffolk County provided a 130-acre site in Selden for a permanent campus. In August 1961, the college opened what was later to be known as the Ammerman Campus, renamed in honor of the college founding president, Dr. Albert M. Ammerman. In June 1962, the college held its first commencement exercises, at which 42 graduates received associate degrees. Two other permanent campuses were opened – the Western Campus in Brentwood in 1974 – now known as the Michael J. Grant Campus – and the Eastern Campus in Riverhead in 1977. In an effort to revitalize traditional downtown areas and provide additional access to educational opportunities, the college opened a downtown center in Sayville in 2005. In 2008, the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center was established on East Main Street in Riverhead.

ACADEMIC SYMBOLS OF OFFICE

Academic Dress – The academic dress of robe, hood and mortarboard is derived from the costume of medieval students, and has its origins in the actuality that most were priests or monks in training, and wore clerical robes for both warmth and distinctiveness. This mode of dress became a student's uniform in thirteenth-century England. It has evolved into traditional garb for graduating students and for professors at formal collegiate activities. The full bachelor's dress includes a hood three feet in length and a mortarboard cap. The master's gown is similar to the bachelor's in general shape but has either no sleeves or long trunk-like flaps underneath the sleeve, and the hood is three and a half feet long. The doctor's gown is fuller and has long velvet panels draped around the neck and stitched down the front edges. The doctor's hood is four feet long and rounded at the bottom. The inside of the hood is lined with the colors of the college or university attended, and the holder of the hood carries the color of the department or field of learning.

The Mace – Carried by a designated marshal, the mace symbolizes the authority by which the college grants degrees. In honor of the college's 50th anniversary celebration in 2010, the current mace was designed for the college by Michaelann Tostanoski, Associate Professor, Communication and Arts at the Michael J. Grant Campus. Research on the original lighthouse design was completed with the help of MaryPat Takacs, member of the adjunct library faculty.

The Fire Island Lighthouse served as the original inspiration for the college's logo. In creating the design for the 50th anniversary mace, Professor Tostanoski again used this enduring Long Island symbol. The mace's lighthouse is made of light and dark wood, meant to capture a sense of the light being shed by the lighthouse beacon, pointing the way to success. Blue light emanates from the lens of the lighthouse. This symbolizes the light of knowledge, illuminating and coloring the way for those graduating from Suffolk County Community College as they follow their life paths. Finally, the base under the lighthouse holds three identical copies of the college's official seal – one seal on each of three facets – honoring the three campuses of our one college.

The Medallion – This symbol of office is usually a pendant on a ribbon or chain worn as a necklace.

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1896	Adelphi University Nardy O. Madera, Alumna	1961		SUNY Adirondack Kristine D. Duffy, Ph.D. President
1912	Farmingdale State College Dr. John S. Nader, President	1968		SUNY Old Westbury Timothy E. Sams, Ph.D. President
1916	St. Joseph's College Gigi Lamens, Vice President for Enrollment Management	1971		SUNY Empire State College Brian V. Carolan, Ph.D. Dean, School for Graduate Studies
1955	Molloy College Catherine Muscente Vice President for Mission and Ministry	1972		Five Towns College David M. Cohen, J.D. President
1957	Stony Brook University Dawn Medley, Ed.D. Vice-Provost for Enrollment Management			

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Adelphi University	Nassau Community College
Alfred University	New York Institute of Technology
Fulton-Montgomery Community College	Niagara County Community College
LIM College	SUNY Brockport
Mohawk Valley Community College	SUNY Empire State College
Monroe Community College	SUNY Morrisville

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Robert T. Kreiling	1983-1991
Dr. John F. Cooper	1991-1997
Salvatore J. La Lima	1997-2003
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Dr. Edward T. Bonahue	2021-present

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The committee wishes to express its appreciation to the following:

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