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COLUMBIA-GREENE COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION BOARD WELCOMES THREE NEW MEMBERS

New Members Add Decades of Valuable Experience to the Board

HUDSON, N.Y. (March 13, 2025) – Columbia-Greene Community College (C-GCC) welcomes James Finch, Kyle Patzwahl, and Brian Stickles to the Foundation Board. Former Hillsdale Town Supervisor Christian Kersten continues his years of service to the Foundation by assuming a one-year term as Board Chair.

James “Jim” Finch holds both a BA in Microbiology and an MBA from the University of Kansas. His career spans more than 35 years working in corporate finance, and he currently serves as a Clinical Professor of Finance at the Leonard N. Stern School of Business (NYU Stern). Professor Finch started his career managing an international semiconductor manufacturer, where he helped raise \$25m in startup venture capital. He later negotiated the sale of that business to the General Instrument Corporation. He went on to hold high-level positions at the Hess Corporation, JP Morgan Capital Markets, and most recently retired from Credit Suisse after 17 years, where he served as the Head of US Loan Capital Markets.

Kyle Patzwahl holds an MBA from the Carroll School of Management at Boston College, a JD from Boston College Law School, a BA from The George Washington University, and an AA from Columbia Greene Community College. A member of the Massachusetts and New York Bar Associations, he started his legal career as a transactional associate with a focus on business, banking, and commercial real estate. In 2022, he was hired as an Assistant District Attorney at the Columbia County District Attorney’s Office. After his time as a prosecutor, he started a private practice where he focuses on comprehensive estate planning, real estate, and general corporate matters. In addition, he is an appointed alternate conflict defender, representing indigent criminal defendants and family court litigants. Aside from his legal work, Kyle serves on the boards of the Columbia County Recovery Kitchen and BerkShares, Inc. Kyle, a lifelong resident of Columbia County, and his partner, Luke, reside in Claverack with their dog, Henry.

Brian Stickles holds an MBA from The College of Saint Rose and a BS from Cornell University, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He currently serves as Vice President of Corporate Lending at The Bank of Greene County, where he has held positions of increasing responsibility for over 17 years. A lifelong resident of Columbia County, Brian has been an active member of the local community, having served in leadership and board-member capacities for several organizations, including Columbia Economic Development Corporation, Columbia County Association in the City of New York, Cornell Alumni Admissions Network, Hudson Development Corporation Board of Directors, Hudson Area Library Board of Trustees, Hudson Rotary Club, Columbia County Young Professionals, and Columbia County Habitat for Humanity. He and his wife, Caitlin, reside in Germantown, New York with their daughter, Ophelia, and son, Theo.

“As the College looks forward to the future, the institution is focused on real-world experience, and providing the needed skills that will enable our students to get ahead in a very competitive job market,” said Dr. Carlee Drummer, president, Columbia-Greene Community College.

“These new additions to the Foundation Board will bring decades of experience to the leadership and advisory team, and will help optimize our services in the community and region as a whole.”

For more information about the Columbia-Greene Community College Foundation, please visit givecolumbiagreene.org.

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About Columbia-Greene Community College: *A campus of the State University of New York (SUNY), Columbia-Greene Community College (“C-GCC”) is a comprehensive, two-year institution offering a variety of transfer and career programs leading to the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, and Associate in Occupational Studies degrees, as well as micro credentials, one-year certificate programs, and specialized courses geared toward community interest.*