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CCC Starts fall semester with new president

PLATTSBURGH-Clinton Community College President John Joblonski has an optimistic outlook on how he can contribute to help CCC become more innovative and progressive as he begins his first semester at the college.

“Students will profit from new academic sustainability programs at CCC, such as, wind power, solar energy, enhanced support services, more contemporary facilities, and a more varied student body,” Joblonski said as he talked recently about his role as CCC’s chief administrator.

President Joblonski’s strategy is to reach out to the community, improve the campus environment and put forth innovative academic programs. He looks forward to helping CCC overcome some of the challenges it faces and to direct his focal point on its strengths.

Joblonski’s qualifications incorporate 23 years of experience in higher education and a broad profession in community service.

“I take pleasure in teaching, and I was good at it,” Joblonski said. Having a sense of fulfillment and personal contentment helping people understand is a real joy.”

Most of the president’s career has been spent in community colleges much like CCC. The colleges were similar in size to Clinton, but CCC possesses a great personality and a sense of community, he said.

“Often times the larger colleges can be so aloof.”

Knowing folks that I have come to support and serving the community as a business resource is really why Joblonski loves his job. He enjoys recognizing the students and being able to talk to them on a regular basis.

Due to the still unstable economy, Joblonski acknowledged that Obama’s NY stimulus package will benefit the college.

“The stimulus package helped reinstate funding for budget cuts that were made prior to it,” he said. “Now, CCC will benefit from not having those cuts for at least two more years.”

At that time, cuts may be necessary again, if CCC cannot uphold them by then, either through state aide, sponsors in the community or in the course of student tuition.

“Making additional loans obtainable to students will be a good thing,” he said of the latest student-loan proposal by President Obama.

“By cutting out the middle man and altering the way student loans currently are can save billions of dollars that could be used to finance more students,” Obama said recently.

President Joblonski is a native of Amsterdam, which is just north of Albany. He is married and has two daughters.

He graduated with an Associates of Science degree in Engineering Science in 1981, a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1983, and a Master of Science degree in Engineering, in Bioengineering in 1986.

President Joblonski is currently seeking a PhD in Education Administration and Policy Studies.