2012 Distinguished Ranks – Community Colleges

Distinguished Teaching Professorship

- **Martin Lecker** – Professor Lecker has been a member of the Rockland Community College Business Department since 1985. He is known for innovations in the areas of course and program development, educational technology, and student mentoring. Dr. Lecker has left his mark on the College by teaching over eighteen courses across four disciplines. His leadership propelled the creation of an A.S. in Business Administration degree and his course development serves as a model for web-enhanced and online courses. Dr. Lecker is an exceptional teacher who has profoundly shaped the lives and careers of scores of students. He has published numerous articles in both national and international journals including, *Journal of Business Ethics, Research in Ethical Issues in Organizations, Insurance Ethics for a More Ethical World, Teachers College Record, Review of Business*, and *Colleague*.

Distinguished Service Professorship

- **Bill Baker** – An environmental activist and recipient of both the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service, Professor Baker has been a teaching member of the faculty at Rockland Community College since 1970. At Rockland Community College, his priorities have always been to have students "be all that they can be," successfully meet their goals, and transfer to four-year institutions of higher learning. Professor Baker has been active in environmental activities for over forty years, ranging from course/program development in environmental studies, to activities dealing with saving/protecting the environment. Numerous environmental initiatives of his were implemented, with several becoming laws in Rockland County and the State, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award of the County of Rockland.

- **Francis Battisti** – For over 40 years, at Broome Community College, Professor Battisti has offered students, staff, and the greater community inspiration and commitment to educational excellence. His vision of the educational process is one of challenge, exploration, and enlightenment. As an educator, Dr. Battisti has consistently believed in and practiced the principles of Service Leadership, the natural sense of serving others. Beyond the campus, Dr. Battisti’s service has included membership on numerous community boards, assisting not-for-profits to reach their stated goals, offering inspirational presentations throughout the community. Dr. Battisti has also lectured throughout the United States and abroad. His presentations at major conferences spring from his academic preparation and relate to topics such as service leadership, conflict resolution, gerontology issues, health promotion, and childhood obesity.