



**ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE**  
**HON. EDWARD A. RATH, III**  
**LEGISLATOR**

April 14, 2011

Hon. Crystal Peoples-Stokes  
Assembly District Office  
792 E. Delavan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14215

Dear Assemblymember Peoples-Stokes,

I write to you to encourage your support and advocacy for the construction of the Erie Community College's Center for Excellence project located on the North Campus. This is a critical investment in a major county asset, and as such needs to have the unanimous endorsement of the entire Western New York delegation in Albany.

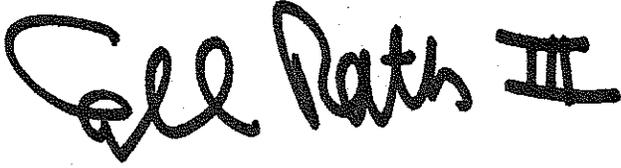
ECC's North Campus has had no major expansion projects since it was first built in 1960, with the exception of the child care center. New development will provide good paying construction jobs and ultimately additional employment at the college at a much needed time for our community. Furthermore, ECC North provides educational services to 44% of the overall student population. Money spent on a new academic building will enhance the quality of education for the residents of our county, and perhaps encourage student migration in to ECC from other counties.

Over the past several years there has been positive investment surrounding ECC's City Campus. These finalized projects include: the Bert Flickenger Athletic Center, the newly acquired satellite campus at 45 Oak Street, and the private development of nearby student housing. All of these projects have been much needed for the City Campus, now its time to prioritize an upgrade at the North Campus.

The three campus model that we have at ECC is a distinct competitive advantage for our residents and in relation to other nearby community colleges. I believe that any opportunity to enhance the academic buildings at any of the ECC campuses must be pursued aggressively and expeditiously.

For these reasons I kindly ask for you to firmly support this important project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Rath III". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

EDWARD A. RATH, III  
Erie County Legislator

CC: Jack Quinn- President, ECC  
Patricia Krzesinski- Chair, ECC Board of Trustees  
Chris Collins- Erie County Executive  
Western New York Delegation