



For Immediate Release
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**CCBC President Kurtinitis speaks before Senate and House
Congressional Community College Caucuses
*Dec. 11 briefing on Capitol Hill focuses on Community-Based Job Training Grants***

Baltimore, Md. -- Community College of Baltimore County President Sandra Kurtinitis will be one of three community college presidents speaking Tuesday, Dec. 11 before the Senate and House Congressional Community College Caucuses regarding the importance of Community-Based Job Training Grants. Also speaking on the topic will be Karen Stout, president of Montgomery County Community College (Pa.) and Bill Path, president of Northeast Community College (Neb.).

An aging work force, along with rapidly changing technology and increased globalization has created continuous change in labor needs. Community colleges are by far the largest and fastest growing institutions within higher education and are more closely connected with the community and able to address local labor market needs.

The CBJTG program was developed in 2005 to assist community colleges in training and education workers for today's changing work force needs. Designed to increase these schools' capacity to provide specialized training for high growth, high demand industries, CBJTGs have quickly become a sought-after source of financial support. CCBC was awarded a CBJTG grant in 2007 totaling more than \$2.5 million. The college was one of 70 to receive such grants from an applicant pool of 1,200. CCBC's grant is being used to develop career ladders in three high-demand practice areas : medical laboratory, dental and nursing/patient care.

"Community-based job training grants allow our institutions to have tremendous impact within our communities," said CCBC President Sandra Kurtinitis. "This funding enables us to launch new programs that are vital to educating individuals to meet today's changing work force needs. I welcome the opportunity to speak on Capitol Hill about the importance of these grants."

The Senate and House briefing takes place from 10 – 11 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 11 in SC-4 of the U. S. Capitol building.

For more information call 410-869-7153.

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For CCBC, it has been an amazing 50-year journey.

About CCBC (www.ccbcmd.edu)

The Community College of Baltimore County is celebrating 50 years of providing the residents of Baltimore County and beyond a quality, affordable education. Rooted in the community since 1957, CCBC educates nearly 70,000 students each year, including half of all Baltimore County residents attending college in Maryland as undergraduates. Offering more than 50 different associate degrees and 100 certificate programs, CCBC ranks among the best in providing undergraduate education, work force development, technology, health care training and life enrichment options to citizens throughout the Baltimore Metropolitan area. CCBC also provides customized employee development training to more than 100 companies annually.