

**SUFFOLK COUNTY**  
**JOBS OPPORTUNITY BOARD**



**REPORT TO THE SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2014**

**HAUPPAUGE, NY**

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# Report of the Jobs Opportunity Board

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## I. Membership of the Jobs Opportunity Board:

- The County Executive, or his or her designee
- The Chairperson of the Education and Information Technology Committee of the County Legislature, or his or her designee
- The Chairperson of the Economic Development and Energy Committee of the County Legislature, or his or her designee
- The President of Suffolk County Community College, or his or her designee
- The Chairperson of the Suffolk County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council, or his or her designee
- The Executive Director of the Suffolk County Youth Bureau, or his or her designee
- A representative of the Suffolk County IDA, or his or her designee
- A representative from the Long Island Federation of Labor
- A representative from Stony Brook University
- A representative from St. Joseph's College
- A representative from Farmingdale State University
- A representative from Dowling College
- A representative from Listnet
- A representative from the Long Island Forum of Technology (LIFT)
- A representative from Brookhaven National Laboratory
- A representative from the Hauppauge Industrial Association
- A representative from the Long Island Association of Small Businesses
- A representative from the Stony Brook Small Business Council

## II. Objective of the board:

The board was created by Resolution 240-2013: Establishing the Jobs Opportunity Board ("JOB") to centralize career advancement and educational opportunities in the County of Suffolk. This legislation was sponsored by Legislator Sarah S. Anker.

The purpose of the Jobs Opportunity Board was to evaluate ways to further connect post-secondary schools, technology firms, and businesses in an effort to help identify job opportunities for recent college graduates. The board also examined ways to properly prepare, train, and support students seeking employment opportunities.

## Report of the Jobs Opportunity Board

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### III. Information discussed by the board:

The Jobs Opportunity Board met three times to discuss the objective and evaluate ways to confront the issue of better connecting our students to available jobs. During our first meeting, the board was divided into three sub-committee groups.

The three sub-committee assignments were:

1. Professional Opportunity: *Identify present and future economic opportunities to better prepare young professionals and build career potential.*
2. Educational Response: *Recognize related educational and training requirements needed to support economic opportunities.*
3. Professional Support/Job Retention: *Provide professional development and support including internship and mentorship as avenues to keep and bring young professionals in Suffolk County.*

During the sub-committee's report to the board, it was determined that Suffolk County should facilitate a direct conduit between the current demands of the industry market, with career services at higher education institutions, with students who are looking for employment opportunities. (Please see diagram below)

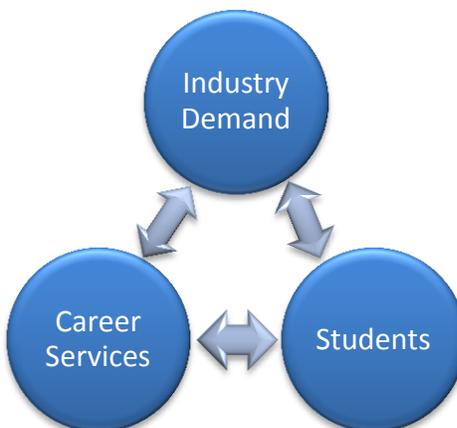


Diagram by Julie Allegretti, Assistant to the Executive Director, Bill Wahlig of LIFT

The board further discussed ideas as to how to create this model into a working system throughout Suffolk County, and it was determined that there should be better communication and a single source for industry, post-secondary schools and students to use.

## Report of the Jobs Opportunity Board

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The sub-committee's also discussed and gathered information pertaining to job networking programs and the services provided to better connect with potential student interns and/or post graduate employees. The information was divided between events and networking, help programs, information portal, and live support programs offered to reach out to potential job seekers. (Please see diagram below)

	<b>Events / Networking</b>	<b>Help Programs</b>	<b>Information Portal</b>	<b>Live Support</b>
APICS Student-Industry Connection event on April 28, 2014	X			
TechPREP and STEMTech	X	X		
The Long Island STEM Hub (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)	X	X	X	X
Suffolk County Council, Boy Scouts of America	X	X		X
The STEM Diversity Summit:	X	X		
Connect to Tech	X	X	X	X
National Manufacturing Day	X			
Huntington Chamber of Commerce - Young Professionals Group	X			
Melville Chamber of Commerce - Young Professionals Group	X		X	
Llincs	X			
Urban League of Long Island Young Professionals	X			
Young Professionals of the IEEE Long Island Section	X			
Destination LI, Long Island, NY	X			
Public Relations Professionals of Long Island (PRPLI) Committee: Young Professionals	X			
Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) Student Zone	X		X	X
Long Island Business News, Young Island	X		X	
Stonybrook Career Site ZebraNet			X	X
Suffolk County Community College Job Listings			X	X
Farmingdale State College Career Center	X		X	X
Adelphi University Career Center	X		X	X
Dowling College Career Center	X		X	X
St. Joseph's College Office of Career Development and Engagement	X		X	X

Diagram by Julie Allegretti, Assistant to the Executive Director, Bill Wahlig of LIFT

## Report of the Jobs Opportunity Board

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Through the contributions of the JOB sub-committee reports, the board members were able to better understand the current job opportunities and network programs available to residents in Suffolk County.

#### IV. Conclusion of Jobs Opportunity Board:

During the board's final meeting, members discussed their findings in detail with Commissioner Samuel Chu of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Consumer Affairs. Commissioner Chu spoke on behalf of County Executive Steve Bellone to address the board's concerns of creating ways to keep our recent graduates in Suffolk County, and better connect those individuals to employment opportunities. He explained that by the county investing in our downtowns, attainable housing, and transportation system, there would be a significant impact on the rate of recent graduates staying in Suffolk County.

Commissioner Chu spoke about the importance of the Suffolk County One-Stop Employment Center, which focuses on connecting residents with employers. In addition, the facility provides resources and tools to residents throughout their job-search.

Additionally, Commissioner Chu concluded that the department would update their website with input from the Jobs Opportunity Board members, and the department will hold a job fair with the organizations involved on this board in an effort to expand the communication and opportunities for our students and recent graduates.



# Jobs Opportunity Board Minutes

*October 3, 2013 ~ 9:00am*

*H. Lee Dennison Building, County Executive's Conference Room*

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## **Welcoming Remarks**

### County Executive Steve Bellone

County Executive Steve Bellone discussed the importance of establishing mechanisms for better communication to establish job related services for our young professionals. County Executive Bellone also spoke about Suffolk County's need for groups such as the Jobs Opportunity Board to help facilitate economic growth and stability on Long Island.

### Legislator Sarah Anker

Legislator Sarah Anker thanked the members for their attendance at the first meeting. Legislator Anker spoke about the significance of the board and how Suffolk County needs to establish better ways to connect schools, technology, and businesses in order to help identify jobs for young people. In addition, she discussed the importance of improved bus transportation throughout Suffolk County as an integral part of this effort.

## **Introductions of Jobs Opportunity Board (JOB) Members**

### Attendees:

Suffolk County Legislator Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman of the Education and Information Technology Committee  
Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone  
Suffolk County Legislator Wayne Horsley, Chairman of Economic Development and Energy Committee  
Louis Petrizzo, College General Council, Suffolk County Community College  
John Lombardo, Associate Vice President for Economic Development, Suffolk County Community College  
Stacey Lesko, Youth Director, Suffolk County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council  
Pat Policastro, Youth Services Coordinator, Suffolk County Youth Bureau  
Anthony Manetta, Executive Director, Suffolk County IDA  
Roger Clayman, Executive Director, Long Island Federation of Labor  
Karen Clemente, Student Employment Coordinator of Career Center, Stony Brook University  
Jennifer Rooney, Assitant Director, St. Joseph's College  
Roxann Hristovskiy, Director of Career Services, Dowling College  
Tammy Campagnola-Levinsky, Vice-President, ListNET  
Bill Wahlig, Executive Director, LIFT  
Ken White, Manager Office of Educational Programs, BNL  
Terri Alessi-Miceli, President, HIA-LI  
John Hill, President, President and CEO, Long Island Advancement of Small Business

## **Economic Development and Energy Committee**

### Legislator Wayne Horsley, Chairman: Current Economic State of Suffolk County and Employment

Legislator Wayne Horsley discussed the need for additional bus service throughout Suffolk County noting that added lines will allow more people to travel and seek employment opportunities. Legislator Horsley explained that our biggest challenge is to prepare and train students for jobs that are currently available and help them pursue and attain those employment opportunities. In addition, Legislator Horsley discussed the need to improve infrastructure within Suffolk County- approximately 70% of Suffolk County does not have sewers. By improving our sewer systems throughout Suffolk County, we can attract more businesses and enhance our economy.

## **Suffolk County Department of Labor: Workforce Investment Board Youth Council: Overview of Services**

### Stacey Lesko: Employment Services Offered to Youth within Suffolk County

Stacey Lesko discussed several programs available to young people. The Workforce Investment Board Youth Council mainly focuses on opportunities for students who have dropped out of school. Ms. Lesko's department also offers a work experience program for young men and women. Students who are enrolled in this program are typically from severely disadvantaged homes. There is also an "in school" program available to students as young as fourteen years of age. This program seeks to avoid high drop-out rates by providing support, motivation, and guidance to keep students in school.

## **Suffolk County Youth Bureau**

### **Executive Director Reverend Roderick Pearson**

### Pat Policastro, Youth Services Coordinator: Suffolk County Youth Resource Services Offered in Suffolk County

Pat Policastro spoke about programs offered by the Suffolk County Youth Bureau. The department focuses on ways to get young people jobs by exposing them to various career and educational opportunities. Mr. Policastro stated that mentorship opportunities are greatly needed for young professionals to provide them with necessary information regarding employment and educational opportunities and to help support them with their career endeavors.

## **Suffolk County Community College**

### John Lombardo, Associate Vice President for Workforce and Economic Development: Workforce Education and Training Programs Offered at Suffolk County Community College

John Lombardo discussed current programs available at the Workforce Development Technology Center at Suffolk County Community College. The Workforce Training Center focuses on establishing connections with various companies in Suffolk County to determine their training and employment needs. The center places students with a company for experience and career proficiency. Mr. Lombardo stated that the Workforce Training Center at Suffolk County Community College is currently rated as one of the top 20 training institutes in the country.

## **Sub-Committee Group Assignments**

**Professional Opportunity:** *Identify present and future economic opportunities to better prepare young professionals and build career potential.*

### Members:

LIFT- Bill Wahlig  
Stony Brook University- Karen Clemente  
HIA-LI- Terri Alessi-Miceli  
LISTnet- Tammy Campagnola-Levinsky  
Dowling College- Roxann Hristovsky

**Educational Response:** *Recognize related educational and training requirements needed to support economic opportunities.*

### Members:

Suffolk County Community College- John Lombardo  
Dowling College- Roxann Hristovsky  
Suffolk County Community College- Lou Petrizzo  
St. Joseph's College- Jennifer Rooney  
Long Island Federation of Labor- Roger Clayman

**Professional Support/job retention:** *Provide professional development and support including internship and mentorship as avenues to keep and bring young professionals in Suffolk County.*

**Members:**

LIFT- Bill Wahlig

HIA-LI- Terri Alessi-Miceli

LISTnet- Tammy Campagnola-Levinsky

BNL- Ken White

Stony Brook- Karen Clemente

**Closing Remarks**

**Legislator Sarah Anker**

Legislator Sarah Anker closed the meeting by addressing the main goal of the Jobs Opportunity Board, which is to provide graduating students with the necessary resources and networking opportunities they need to find jobs and stay on Long Island. Legislator Anker's objective for this board is to ultimately provide a central location for our young professionals to obtain those resources including mentorship, internship, and employment opportunities.

In conclusion, Legislator Anker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She is looking forward to working with everyone throughout the year.

**Adjournment**

Approved By   
**Legislator Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman**  
**Suffolk County Legislator**  
**Sixth Legislative District**

**Date: October 22, 2013**



# Jobs Opportunity Board Minutes

April 10, 2014 ~ 9:00am

H. Lee Dennison Building, County Executive's Conference Room

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## **Members Present:**

Suffolk County Legislator Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman of the Education and Information Technology Committee  
John Lombardo, Associate Vice President for Economic Development, Suffolk County Community College  
Anthony Manetta, Executive Director, Suffolk County IDA  
Roger Clayman, Executive Director, Long Island Federation of Labor  
Karen Clemente, Student Employment Coordinator of Career Center, Stony Brook University  
Roxann Hristovsky, Director of Career Services, Dowling College  
Peter Goldsmith, President, ListNET  
Bill Wahlig, Executive Director, LIFT  
Ken White, Manager Office of Educational Programs, BNL  
Terri Alessi-Miceli, President, HIA-LI  
James Hall, Farmingdale State College

## **Also in Attendance:**

Sylvia Camacho, Director of Career Services for Suffolk County Community College  
Tony Catapano, Deputy Executive Director of Suffolk County IDA  
Julie Allegretti, Assistant to LIFT  
Pamela Donovan, Aide to Legislator Anker  
Jason Zove, Aide to Legislator Lindsay

## **Minutes Taken By:**

Amy Ellis, Aide to Legislator Anker

## **Presentation: Suffolk County Community College, Sylvia Camacho**

*Director of Career Services and Cooperative Education Sylvia Camacho, to give a presentation on internship programs at Suffolk County Community College and Suffolk's Job Connection.*

### **Sylvia Camacho:**

- The fundamental purpose of the Career Services Department at Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) is to provide job related services to students.
- Internship programs at the college include a classroom course. Additionally, the college assists students in developing necessary skillsets to obtain an internship position.
- SCCC has numerous internship programs available, including criminal justice, political science, business, paralegal, computer science and technology, and humanities. Currently, SCCC has two hundred student interns.
- Many employers post applications online due to the increasing number of internship resumes submitted each semester.
- Suffolk Jobs Connection is an online resource provided by the college, where businesses can post available jobs for students and alumni. Currently there are over 400 positions available on the website.

➤ **Action Items:**

- Draft a letter to Governor Cuomo regarding the Department of Labor's internship law. John Lombardo suggested stressing the need for cooperative workforce experience.
- Set up meeting with Senator LaValle regarding ways to better connect businesses with schools and their students.

**Presentation: Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency**

*A representative from Suffolk County IDA to speak on the IDA website and employment opportunities in Suffolk County.*

- Tony Catapano- current Acting Executive Director of IDA
- In the last two years, the IDA has adopted a new tax policy. This tax policy allows Suffolk County to be more aggressive in terms of communicating with businesses.
- The main focus for the IDA is to retain companies on Long Island. Retain and Grow (R and G) our workforce.
- In 2013, the IDA approved 29 new projects- accounting for 3180 jobs retained, 1621 created, \$70 million in new payroll, and 275 million in local capital investment. The IDA closed in 2013 on 24 projects.
- The IDA is working on expanding the scope beyond providing tax incentives- they invested in a jobs website for two reasons- to find an outlet in a hyper focused environment (STEM), and to increase accountability so that taxpayers could have access to these opportunities as well.
- The website can be created into a more mobile, digital platform and IDA is willing to make that investment. IDA can integrate into other platforms that may already be available. This will allow sites to comingle. The IDA can expand their website if requested.

➤ **Action Item:**

- Meet with Commissioner Chu to discuss the possibility of creating a countywide website that will better link businesses to educational institutions, and students.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**Professional Opportunity:** *Identify present and future economic opportunities to better prepare young professionals and build career potential.*

**Members:**

LIFT- Bill Wahlig, Chair  
Stony Brook University- Karen Clemente  
HIA-LI- Terri Alessi-Miceli  
LISTnet- Tammy Campagnola-Levinsky  
Dowling College- Roxann Hristovsky

**Presentation by: Bill Whalig, CEO of LIFT**

The Professional Opportunity Subcommittee met twice, and concluded two main areas of focus:

- Identify and create communication tools/resources to achieve objectives
- Generate regional industry intelligence in support of objectives

Action Items for subcommittee:

- Create an electronic portal that will consolidate resources, needs and talent across the county
- Gather demographics from resources such as DOL and LIRACHE
- Create a business council

- Create an internship framework that colleges and industry can agree upon and work within
- Create point paper for elected officials and business leaders to articulate messaging
- Align existing resources that offer student's connections to Industry through Networking Events, Help Programs, Informational Portals, and Live Support.

**Educational Response:** *Recognize related educational and training requirements needed to support economic opportunities.*

**Members:**

Suffolk County Community College- John Lombardo, Chair  
 Dowling College- Roxann Hristovsky  
 Suffolk County Community College- Lou Petrizzo  
 St. Joseph's College- Jennifer Rooney  
 Long Island Federation of Labor- Roger Clayman

**Presentation by: John Lombardo, Suffolk County Community College**

The subcommittee is currently reviewing additional ways to better connect schools with potential businesses. John stated that he would like to establish a career academy to possibly act as a direct link with schools and businesses.

**Professional Support/job retention:** *Provide professional development and support including internship and mentorship as avenues to keep and bring young professionals in Suffolk County.*

**Members:**

LIFT- Bill Wahlig  
 HIA-LI- Terri Alessi-Miceli  
 LISTnet- Tammy Campagnola-Levinsky, Chair  
 BNL- Ken White  
 Stony Brook- Karen Clemente

**Presentation by: Ken White: BNL-**

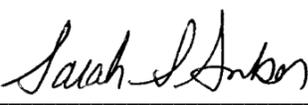
The subcommittee is currently reviewing possible funding for educational institutions to start career academies, which may act as a startup for schools to link students to jobs.

**Closing Remarks**

**Legislator Sarah Anker**

Legislator Sarah Anker closed the meeting by stating the action items. Legislator Anker is planning on arranging a meeting with Commissioner Chu to discuss the possibility of the Suffolk County Department of Labor creating a website with the findings from the Jobs Opportunity Boards.

**Adjournment**

Approved By   
**Legislator Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman**  
**Suffolk County Legislator**  
**Sixth Legislative District**

**Date: May 7, 2014**



# Jobs Opportunity Board Minutes

*September 4, 2014 ~ 9:00am*

*H. Lee Dennison Building, County Executive's Conference Room*

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## **Members Present:**

Suffolk County Legislator Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman of the Education and Information Technology Committee

Samuel Chu, Commissioner, Department of Labor, Licensing, and Consumer Affairs

John Lombardo, Associate Vice President for Economic Development, Suffolk County Community College

Tony Catapano, Acting Executive Director, Suffolk County IDA

Roger Clayman, Executive Director, Long Island Federation of Labor

Karen Clemente, Student Employment Coordinator of Career Center, Stony Brook University

Bill Wahlig, Executive Director, LIFT

Terri Alessi-Miceli, President, HIA-LI

Reverend Roderick Pearson, Executive Director of the Suffolk County Youth Bureau

Stacey Lesko, Youth Director, Suffolk County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council

Ben Zwirn, Inter-Governmental Relations Coordinator, Suffolk County Community College

Diane LaChapelle, Department of Labor, Licensing, and Consumer Affairs

## **Also in Attendance:**

Julie Allegretti, Assistant to LIFT

Amy Ellis, Aide to Legislator Sarah Anker

Brain Sapp, Aide to Legislator William Lindsay, III

## **Minutes Taken By:**

Amy Ellis, Aide to Legislator Anker

## **Overview of Jobs Opportunity Board**

Legislator Anker began the meeting by thanking the board members for their dedication and commitment to the issue of connecting our students to jobs in Suffolk County.

The board discussed the continued need for educational institutions to be connected with Suffolk County's Department of Labor, Licensing, and Consumer Affairs. Board members expressed their desire for a conduit between county businesses, educational institutions and students.

Mr. John Lombardo, Associate Vice President for Economic Development for Suffolk County Community College, discussed how businesses have been setting up on-site job fairs in an effort to bring potential new interns/employees to their facility. This offers a more hands on approach to students who may be considering employment or an internship; in addition it allows the student to see first-hand the environment of the business. Mr. Lombardo also spoke about the "Advanced Manufacturing Training Program". This program enables students to become interns, while also being trained and paid for their work at a specialized business.

Karen Clemente, Career Center Student Employment Coordinator at Stony Brook University, spoke briefly about the university's "Zebra Net" portal page. This website offers a comprehensive list to students regarding potential internship and employment opportunities throughout Suffolk County.

**Presentation: Suffolk County Department of Labor, Licensing and Consumer Affairs**

*Commissioner Samuel Chu to provide a brief presentation on the current projects and initiatives.*

Commissioner Chu spoke about various programs the county is currently offering to help promote business opportunities and employment notifications to residents throughout Suffolk County. He also spoke about initiatives being made by County Executive Steve Bellone to help keep our recently graduated students in Suffolk County, which includes investing in our downtowns and attainable housing, and making improvements to the county transportation system. Pertaining to employment, the county offers numerous programs to help residents and businesses, such as the social equality and diversity program, and Suffolk County's business program, which helps to subsidize work development programs for on the job training, and new employees for businesses. In addition, the department offers the One-Stop Employment Center. This program sees more than 20,000 residents per year who are connected with employers, and provided with resources and tools throughout their job-search.

Commissioner Chu discussed the need to update the department's website. He expressed to the members that he would include input from the board when making revisions to the website. He also discussed his interest in hosting a job fair with the members of the board.

Legislator Anker discussed her desire to better connect recently graduated high school students with jobs, and the need to promote employment early, including discussions on STEM and STEAM to our secondary students. Bill Wahlig, from LIFT, agreed with Legislator Anker and added there should be a countywide catalog that lists each business and possible employment opportunities. He stressed the need to make these employment opportunities as readily available to our residents in an effort to keep our students local.

Terri Alessi-Miceli, President of HIA, discussed the need for businesses to be better connected with the county. Diane LaChapelle, from the Department of Labor, Licensing and Consumer Affairs, stated that their department offers methods for businesses to stay connected, such as signing up for the "A-List" program, where businesses will be updated on job fairs and various other employment events occurring throughout the county.

Commissioner Chu further discussed the need for the county to work with our local school districts, and the importance of setting up a program that would enable the county to partner with local schools. Legislator Anker suggested starting a program to invite school districts to take a tour of the One-Stop Employment Center.

➤ **Action Items:**

- Work with members of the Jobs Opportunity Board to provide input to the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Consumer Affairs regarding website revisions.
- Work with the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Consumer Affairs to set up a countywide job fair.
- Initiate a school-tour program with school districts and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Consumer Affairs.

**Closing Remarks**

Legislator Sarah Anker

Legislator Sarah Anker closed the meeting by thanking all of the members for the commitment and service on the Jobs Opportunity Board. Legislator Anker stressed her dedication to this issue, and advised the members that she would be in touch regarding any future information and events to help promote the connection with businesses, educational institutions, and students.

**Adjournment**

Approved By 

**Date: September 18, 2014**

**Legislator Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman  
Suffolk County Legislator  
Sixth Legislative District**