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NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION ELECTS NEW BOARD PRESIDENT AND WELCOMES NEW DIRECTORS

NORWALK, CT, October 12, 2020— The Norwalk Community College Foundation is pleased to announce the election of George A. Reilly of Darien, an attorney with the Rucci Law Group, as president, as well as two new directors, Tara Arnold of Fairfield, Head of Community Relations at Bridgewater Associates, and Laura Sterner of New Canaan, Head of Capital Development and Investor Relations at Point72.

“Our Board of Directors is comprised of a dedicated team of community leaders committed to supporting student success at Norwalk Community College,” said Carrie Bernier, Executive Director of the NCC Foundation. “We are excited to welcome Tara and Laura, and proud to have George serve as this year’s board president. Our board is pivotal in furthering the Foundation’s mission to support NCC.”

George Reilly has been practicing law locally for over 35 years involving matrimonial matters, real estate and estate planning with others in Rucci Law Group. George has been involved in a number of public service organizations, especially involving education. He was a trustee of his high school alma mater, King School in Stamford, and served as president of its board for seven years. He was a member of Darien’s Board of Education for eleven years, and he has served on the NCC Foundation for eight years. George has been involved in other civic matters throughout his legal career. He is now also a member of Darien’s Planning & Zoning Commission and Blight Review Board.

“The NCC Foundation provides critical scholarship assistance to hundreds of students each semester, and it funds unique and important college programs such as the Veterinary Technology program and new Digital Media Center. I am delighted to lead such a valuable resource for our community,” George said.

Tara Arnold currently oversees community relations at Bridgewater Associates, L.P, and previously was Head of Human Resources at Bridgewater. Deeply committed to the advancement of women in the finance industry and beyond, Ms. Arnold is Co-Founder and Co-Head of Bridgewater’s Women’s Influence Network (WIN) which provides support and collaboration among Bridgewater women. She also leads the WIN Community Service Group which works on projects for the betterment of individuals and organizations in Fairfield County.

Tara shared, “I’m honored to join such a fantastic group of people that make up the NCC Foundation Board, working together on a shared mission. A mission where I hope to contribute to the future of our youth in a positive way, which has always been a passion of mine.”

Laura Sterner is Point72’s Head of Capital Development and Investor Relations, responsible for leading the Firm’s external capital activities and managing Point72’s Capital Development and Investor Relations team. Ms. Sterner joined Point72 in 2015 as part of the Strategy Team and later joined Stamford Harbor Capital. While at Stamford Harbor Capital, she worked to design an investor offering and develop an external investor base. Before she joined Point72, Ms. Sterner advised large financial institutions as part of Navigant Consulting.

Laura shared: “An amazing opportunity set exists to educate, support and mentor the next generation while at the same time creating a more diverse, educated workforce. I am thrilled to be a part of such an effective organization.”

The 2020-2021 Norwalk Community College Foundation Board of Directors are: President, George A. Reilly of Rucci Law Group; Vice President, Susan G. Weinberger of Mentor Consulting Group; Treasurer, Jon Gold of Edgehill Partners, LLC; Secretary, Laura Erickson. Directors: Tara Arnold of Bridgewater Associates, L.P; Livia Barndollar of Pullman & Comley, LLC ; Erin M. Catapano of Praxair, Inc.; Ana Chadwick of GE Capital; Jennifer Crowell; Noradeen Farlekas of MMBB Financial Services; Vasso Gyftopoulos, RN; Julie M. Johnson, Executive Leadership Coach; Jacqueline G. Labatt-Simon; Deborah C. McLean, Adjunct Professor, Columbia (SIPA); Vince Murphy of ProCeritas Consulting LLC; Tameika G. Miller of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce; G.M. O’Connell of Tango Modem, LLC ; Warren Peña of Massachusetts Mutual/Modus Park Advisors, LLC; Amy Richman of Pitney Bowes, Inc.; Laura Sterner of Point72; Stuart C. Weismiller of Marketing Tactics, LLC; Joseph R. Zimmel. - Emeritus Directors: Joan Barksdale; Edwin A. Bescherer; Carlton T. Goodnow; Ann S. Mandel; Eleanor S. Riemer, Ph.D.

To learn more about the NCC Foundation, we invited you to attend our “Year of Impact” virtual presentation on October 29th, from 4-5pm on Zoom. Visit ncc-foundation.org to register.

About the Norwalk Community College Foundation

The Norwalk Community College Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports expanding access to affordable, quality higher education, the development of a productive workforce, and contributing to the knowledge and well-being of our community by raising funds for Norwalk Community College.

The Foundation works with individuals, major corporations and local organizations to develop new initiatives and educational partnerships to inspire and engage our community to share talents and resources. With assistance from generous donors, the NCC Foundation provides \$3 million annually in scholarships, faculty and program support, and student success initiatives.

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