

Saratoga County Economic Development Opportunities



Saratoga County

December 10, 2014

2:00 PM

Sponsored By

Saratoga County Board of Supervisors

Please join us at the County Board Room, 40 McMasters Street, Ballston Spa NY for presentations on the economic development opportunities in Saratoga County.

Speakers: Jack Lawler (Saratoga's Prosperity Partnership); Leslie Whatley (Startup NY Program); Penny Hill (Hudson Valley Community College Startup Plan); Kristine Duffy (SUNY Adirondack)

Reservations are required: Contact Pam Wright at: 885-2240
pwright@saratogacountyny.gov

Biographies

Leslie Whatley - Executive Vice President, Start Up New York

Leslie Whatley is currently Executive Vice President, Start-Up New York for the Empire State Development Corporation. She is a globally respected executive with extensive real estate and management experience across multiple industry sectors and geographies.

Leslie held various leadership positions at General Motors during her 16 year tenure there. The last 13 years have been spent as the Global Head of Real Estate for Morgan Stanley (8 years) and previously JP Morgan Chase (5 years).

Leslie served as Chair of the Executive Board of Directors of CoreNet Global and on the Executive Board of NYU's Schack School of Real Estate. She received both a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Michigan.

Penny Hill, Associate Dean - Hudson Valley Community College

Penny Hill has lead the development of the Start-up economic plan for the HVCC. She is Associate Dean at Hudson Valley Community College's Training and Education Center for Semiconductor Manufacturing and Alternative and Renewable Technologies facility in Malta. Dean Hill brings with her more than 10 years of experience in the field of workforce and economic development with a focus on training for energy efficiency and green jobs.

She joined Hudson Valley from the Workforce Development Institute in Troy where, as regional director, she developed advance training and education programs for employment in manufacturing, renewable energy and energy efficiency. She convened the regional chapter of the Apollo Alliance to promote clean energy and good jobs, and participated in a regional Green Team to build community awareness about energy efficiency measures and the Green Jobs Green New York campaign.

Prior to her work at the Institute she was an independent business development consultant, and she managed her own small business for 10 years. Dean Hill is an alumna of Hudson Valley, and holds a bachelor's degree in biology from the University at Albany and a master's of business administration with a concentration in marketing from Sage Colleges.

Jack Lawler, Supervisor - Town of Waterford

Jack Lawler is the Supervisor of the Town of Waterford and has held that position since 1993 and has been reelected to that position 10 times by Waterford's residents. The town has approximately 9,000 residents and a combined operating budget of \$6 million.

Jack is also a member of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, and was elected by his fellow Supervisors to serve as Chairman of the Board in 2000. He has held the Chairmanship of virtually every standing committee in County Government and is currently the Chairman of the Saratoga County standing committee for Economic Development. Jack has served as Chairman of the Saratoga County Water Authority since its inception and as Chairman he oversaw the construction of the County's \$70 million water system, which was completed both on time and under budget.

Jack has been employed by SEFCU, a local \$3 billion financial institution, for the past 28 years in a variety of executive positions and serves as a member of SEFCU's Executive Team. He currently serves as President of SEFCU Insurance Agency, a wholly owned subsidiary of SEFCU and the sixth largest independent insurance agency in the region. He holds a variety of investment and insurance licenses, and also holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration from RPI.

Kristine Duffy, President - SUNY Adirondack

Dr. Duffy arrived at SUNY Adirondack with significant experience in New York State higher education. Prior to her current position, she served for seven years as Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Services at Onondaga Community College and six years as Dean of Enrollment Management at Cayuga Community College. Dr. Duffy also has experience working in the Capital Region, having served as Director of Admission at Sage Junior College of Albany and as a Guidance Counselor at Colonie Central High School. She holds an Ed.D. in Executive Leadership from St. John Fisher College, where her dissertation topic was the study of community college student retention. She also earned a M.S. in Guidance and Counseling from Russell Sage College and a B.S. in Business Administration from SUNY Brockport.

Dr. Duffy has presented at national and state level conferences on the topics of strategic enrollment management, centralized enrollment services, student retention, and college admission. She has also taught freshmen seminar courses and led customer service training. Throughout her career, she has focused on creating collaborative partnerships both internally and externally in order to be most effective in meeting the needs of students.