



1976

Fifteen Years

The
Inception and Maturing of a
Community Dream

Adirondack Community College Glens Falls, N. Y.

Sponsored by Washington and Warren Counties

#### **FOREWORD**

It is our aim in this booklet to give some history of Adirondack Community College, its progress for the first fifteen years, and its hopes for the future.

Located within commuting distance of many students, A.C.C. gives quality education very inexpensively. Adirondack Community College meets the needs of those who wish to go on for more education, prepares those who wish to go directly into the world of work, and also, those students who elect to go to college on a part-time basis.

New demands are continually met by researching the area as the needs and interests of our people change over the years.

### SUPPORT

Undergirding the energetic and indefatigable work of the Trustees and the earlier "Action Committee" throughout the fifteen years of the progress and development of the College has been the unflagging interest, concern and approbation of the Supervisors of Washington and Warren Counties. Not only did they envision the educational benefits a community college could bring to this area, but also they continue to provide the support and encouragement which enable the College to thrive and grow.

To the Supervisors - as well as the citizens of these two counties - the College owes much of its strength and achievement. Their interest and devotion have not diminished over the years.

The College acknowledges with thanks and appreciation this untiring support and pledges its continued resolve to accomplish its mission in the years ahead.

#### FACULTY AND STAFF

We have been able to attract and to hold a very effective, loyal and productive staff. The quality of an educational institution depends primarily on the persons who serve the students in teaching, as well as in all the functions which make the institution "go". We have been able to employ people with excellent qualifications, but of more importance has been the commitment and dedication they bring to their duties. We feel that much of our support from the public stems from the excellence of those we employ.

# THE HISTORY OF ADIRONDACK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The citizens of Warren and Washington Counties long had a desire to have a college of their own and numerous attempts were made, either to establish a new college or to bring an established college to the area, In 1953, an attempt was made to bring Champlain College, a post-war, state-supported institution, to Bolton Landing. At one time, negotiations were conducted with Ithaca College to get it to move to the area. By 1956, the possibility of a community college was suggested and Mr. Merritt E. Scoville and District Superintendent of Schools Lynn F. Perkins were discussing it. By 1959, the area Chambers of Commerce were contacted.

### **Action Committee Formed**

The possible sponsorship by school districts was discussed, but Warren County in 1958 passed a resolution to explore the possibilities and an "action committee" was set up. It was soon apparent that Warren County alone had neither the population nor the tax base sufficiently large to support adequately a community college. Both Saratoga and Washington Counties were approached, and Washington County accepted the idea. The action committee was enlarged and public meetings as well as speeches to a multitude of civic and religious groups were held by the committee to give the widest possible exposure to the citizens of the two counties. A survey was conducted throughout the area of ninth and tenth grade students, their parents and many local concerns. The idea was received favorably, and a target date of September 1961 was set for the opening. On December 12, 1959 a meeting with Drs. Jarvie and Rapp was held by the committee and details of finances and facilities were discussed. A brochure was drawn up and possible temporary locations were considered. The efforts to bring the information

to the general public were increased. Thirty-four speeches were scheduled for the members of the Action Committee throughout the area. The local radio stations and newspapers cooperated.

In April 1960, both Boards of Supervisors resolved "to join in forming a community college pursuant to the provisions of Article 126 of the Education Law", and the College was approved by the State University of New York in June.

### The Action Committee

Lynn F. Perkins, Lake Luzerne M. E. Scoville, Glens Falls Dr. Henry T. Moore, Glens Falls Robert G. Swan, Glens Falls Alexander W. Miller, Glens Falls James H. Minnick, Glens Falls Mrs. J. C. Liddle, Glens Falls Douglass B. Roberts, Glens Falls John Goetz, Glens Falls Earl Persons, Brant Lake John Wertime, Chestertown Charles A. Wright, Smiths Basin Homer Dearlove, Hudson Falls Theodore Buckley, Cambridge

### The Board of Trustees

As provided by law, five trustees were elected by the Boards of Supervisors, and four were appointed by the governor. The first meeting of the Board was held October 11, 1960. Mr. Alexander Miller was elected Chairman, and Mr. Merritt Scoville, Secretary. Dr. Charles G. Heatherington was employed as a consultant and work proceeded on the selection of a temporary site and a president. The budget for the 1961-62 college year was set at \$225,000.

At the fifth meeting, the name "Adirondack Community College" was adopted by the Board, a most felicitous decision.



# A.C.C.'s FIRST BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(FRONT ROW)

(BACK ROW)

H. Hudson Barton Theodore Buckley Homer P. Dearlove R. Roy Allen

Charles A. Wright Merritt E. Scoville Earle W. Brooker Alexander W. Miller John J. Goetz Warren County Washington County Washington County Washington County

Washington County Warren County Warren County Warren County Warren County



# A.C.C.'s PRESENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(FRONT ROW)

John J. Goetz Homer P. Dearlove Merritt E. Scoville Durward D. Weaver

(BACK ROW)

John J. Castle Leslie Bristol J. Walter Juckett Joseph Randles John Byrnes Warren County Washington County Warren County Warren County

Warren County Washington County Washington County Washington County Student Trustee

### SUPERVISORS 1976

### Warren County

Mr. James W. Malone, Chairman of the Board

**Bolton Landing** Walter F. Lamb Pottersville Carl Roblee Glens Falls (Ward 1) Iames L. Nichols Glens Falls (Ward 2) Anthony J. Scott Glens Falls (Ward 3) Edward D. Broderick Glens Falls (Ward 4) James W. Malone Glens Falls (Ward 5) Edward J. Murphy Hague W. Keith DeLarm Horicon Earl H. Bump Johnsburg Sterling J. Goodspeed Robert F. Flacke Lake George Lake Luzerne Francis M. Eggleston Queensbury Michael R. Brandt Oueensbury N. Harwood Beaty Queensbury Llovd H. Demboski Queensbury Thomas J. Murphy Stony Creek DeWitt Tremaine Thurman Edwin J. Baker Warrensburg Charles E. Hastings

## **Washington County**

Mr. Albin R. Nelson, Chairman of the Board

Carl H. Lufkin Charles R. Clark Curtis J. LeRoy Frank Moy Harold J. Gould Louis G. Fisher Laurence E. Andrews Albin R. Nelson Walter C. Perry, Jr. Kenneth T. Burch John F. Wever Emerson McLenithan Leon M. Layden Frank A. Moore Robert B. Thompson James L. Nolan Horace H. Scott

Argyle Cambridge Dresden Easton Fort Ann Fort Edward Granville Greenwich Hampton Hartford Hebron Jackson Kingsbury Putnam Salem White Creek Whitehall

## The First Employee

Dr. Charles R. Eisenhart, with a background in education in New York State high schools, followed by administrative posts at Hartwick College, Jacksonville University and Defiance College, was the first and only President at Adirondack Community College during the first fifteen years. He was the first person hired by the Board of Trustees, and has directed the activities of the opening of the college, the moving to the new campus with all the construction problems, and has been the guiding influence in the steady growth of A.C.C.



Dr. Charles R. Eisenhart President, 1961 - present

Others who have served as employees throughout the first fifteen years are Mr. Herbert D. Brock, Dean of Administration; Mrs. Ann C. Carson, Secretary to the President; Professor Albert I. Coombes, Chairman of the Science Division; and Associate Professor Donald A. Rumsey, Chairman of the Engineering-Mathematics-Technologies Division.

On February 2, 1961, Dr. Charles R. Eisenhart was selected to be the first President. He took office on February 20. The College opened in temporary quarters on South Main Street in Hudson Falls on September 12, 1961, with a staff of 12 instructors, 3 administrators a librarian, and 335 students. Of the students enrolled, 215 were full-time students and 120 were part-time. The College grew rapidly, and 5 years later the enrollment reached 1,074, with 51 full-time faculty, 5 part-time faculty, 6 administrators, and a librarian.

### THE NEW CAMPUS

As soon as the College was well underway, plans were developed for a permanent campus. A number of possible sites were considered, but the gift of 141 acres of excellent land on Bay Road by the Glens Falls Insurance Company in the late fall of 1963 was accepted by the Trustees, the Supervisors and the State University of New York for the permanent site. The Adirondack Construction Company was the general contractor, and the College moved to its permanent location at the start of the 1967-1968 academic year. The total cost of the new seven-building campus was \$4.5 million (including the value of the land), and the Federal government made a grant of \$1.3 million toward the cost; the remainder was shared equally by the State of New York and the College's two sponsoring counties, Warren and Washington. In subsequent years, a garage, an addition to the Administration Building, tennis courts were added to the campus, and the lawns and playing fields were developed. The College operated without interruption during the student unrest of the late 1960's and the early 1970's.

# STATISTICS

	Fall 1961	Fall 1964	Fall 1967	Fall 1970	Fall 1973	Fall 1975
Full-Time Students	215	628	937	879	949	1,035
Part-Time Students	120	246	379	407	598	801
Full-Time Faculty	12	35	53	56	59	61
Full-Time Employees	21	49	88	99	105	103
Out-of-County Students (Full-Time)	69	267	487	416	365	403
Number of Graduates the Following Spring	0	110	180	200	298	319

# GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Fall,	1961	 \$ 261,300
Fall,	1964	 \$ 566,190
Fall,	1967	 \$1,124,100
Fall,	1970	 \$1,667,490
Fall,	1973	 \$1,982,060
Fall,	1975	 \$2,340,310

# **GRADUATES**

# Degrees

1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
56	70	110	155	160	180	217	204	200	240	277	257	251	265

# Certificates

1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	
13	39	41	44	54	

## Totals

Degree Graduates	2,642
Certificate Graduates	191
Alumni (attended at least one semester)	13,000

### ACCREDITATION

Adirondack Community College is accredited by the University of the State of New York and by the Middle States Association.

### **TUITION**

The tuition in 1961 was \$300.00 a year. It has now been increased to \$580.00 for the coming year. This is low in comparison with the average at community colleges in the state which is \$700.00. The state allows community colleges to charge \$750.00.

### TRANSFER

Adirondack Community College has been very successful in transferring students to four-year schools throughout the country. Due to the geographic situation, most of the students have transferred to Albany, Plattsburgh, or Oneonta.

However, statistics tabulated from 1964 to 1973 show that 10 of our students have gone to the University of Arizona; 11 to Arizona State; 79 to Castleton State in Vermont; 12 to Clarkson; 12 to Cornell; 11 to Ithaca College; 11 to the University of Miami; 33 to Murray State; 14 to Russell Sage; 32 to Siena; 11 to Syracuse University.

### STUDENT ACTIVITY PROGRAM

Our extensive student activity program is supported by a student activity fee of \$30 per semester. This fee, collected from full-time students, provided nearly \$62,000 in 1975-76 which was allocated by our Student Government to operate a very diversified extra-curricular program.

Activities include participation in clubs and other special interest organizations, intercollegiate athletics, dances, guest lectures, film showings and musical programs. Any organization with a constructive purpose may be formed by a group of students, upon petition to the Student Senate provided the organization's objectives are appropriate to the aims of the College. Representative organizations include a Ski Club, Drama Club, Veterans' Club, Student Newspaper, Yearbook, Literary Magazine, Radio Broadcasting Club, and Social Clubs.

The College is convinced that major benefits can be derived by students through their active participation in our activity programs.

## Occupational Education

Several new curricula were added over the years, probably the most important being the development of Certificate Programs in Occupational Education, which started in January of 1970. The unique feature was the arrangement with the Board of Cooperative Educational Services under which the college rented shop space in the new BOCES facilities to conduct occupational training in the late afternoons.

The Occupational Program promises to grow. From the modest beginning in 1970 when 12 students were enrolled in one Certificate Program (in Data Processing), the Occupational Programs at Adirondack Community College have expanded greatly in terms of both the number of students enrolled and the curricula offered. In the spring of 1976, 177 students were enrolled in the following seven curricula: Data Processing, Drafting, Electronics, Heating & Air Conditioning; Industrial Laboratory Testing; Radio Broadcasting, Engineering; and Secretarial Skills. Plans are currently underway to add two additional curricula - Commercial Cooking and Communications & Media Arts - during the coming academic year.

Each of the Certificate Programs is one year in length for full-time students. In addition to the core technical courses, students seeking a certificate are required to enroll in supportive courses which are designed to broaden the conceptual understanding necessary for career development. A minimum of 75 hours of Supervised Work Experience is also required as a part of each student's program, usually during his or her second semester of study.

## SUMMER SESSIONS

Two five-week Summer Day Sessions and one eight-week Summer Evening Session are offered to permit regular academic year students to earn additional credits during the summer weeks, and to provide opportunity for local students who attend other colleges during the academic year to earn credits for transfer.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEES

In order to get local input into our programs, Advisory Committees in many areas have been formed. These have proven to be very helpful to the offerings of the college.

### NON-CREDIT COURSES

Several Non-Credit Courses are promoted each year for the benefit primarily of adults. These courses are for culture and recreation, also for upgrading in employment. These are priced according to the minimum number and the length of the course. They are sponsored by the individuals themselves, by industry, and by State funds. These courses are conducted when there is a need.

Approximately 1400 people take advantage of these special courses each year. The courses are planned and carried out through the Office of Service Programs.

# Full Opportunity Program

The College operates under the "full opportunity program" of the State University, which provides that any post-high school student may be admitted to full-time study.

### **Enrollment**

In the Fall of 1975, the College enrolled 1,836 students, with a teaching staff of 61 full-time faculty, 13 administrators, and 3 librarians. In addition, each year a large number of service courses (short-term, non-credit courses) enroll many hundreds of people from the area. It is estimated that over 3,400 different people come onto the campus each year for one type of learning or another.

### **Future**

The future of the College and its service to our people promises continuing and universal success in the years ahead. Adirondack Community College serves the needs of many people in this area and contributes substantially to the economic, humanitarian and educational needs of boths businesses and individuals.

