

Commitment to Transparent Communication About Relocation

January 26, 2024

Two weeks ago, the college announced its intention to relocate to the SUNY Plattsburgh campus, a strategic move crucial for preserving the institution and maintaining accreditation. Since the initial announcement, CCC has received an outpouring of support and concerns from both the campus and the community. Today, John Kowal, Ph.D., CCC's president, is reaching out to reinforce the commitment to frequent and transparent communication during this transitional period.

The institution acknowledges the importance of engaging deeply and sharing openly to navigate the challenges ahead. President Kowal stated, "We must act together and will be stronger if we do so collectively." The institution faces significant financial hurdles that require a collaborative effort to address.

Key points emphasized in the communication include:

1. **No Merger:** CCC asserts that it is not merging, and its identity and academic independence will remain intact throughout the relocation process.
2. **Starting Point:** The decision to move is a starting point, and detailed plans for relocation will be developed over the upcoming semester.
3. **Community Involvement:** President Kowal encourages the entire community to contribute to the planning and implementation process, emphasizing that desire alone won't make it happen.

In the coming weeks, CCC will establish an internal coordinating committee to steer the transition. The institution welcomes the involvement of community members and recognizes the primary focus on providing top-quality education to current students.

To facilitate communication, a dedicated page on the institution's website has been created to provide information on the relocation. President Kowal highlighted the importance of questions and insights, encouraging the submission of thoughts to serve as cornerstones of the transition plan. A mechanism for submitting questions and ideas will be established, mirroring the successful approach used in creating the current college strategic plan several years ago.

Additionally, President Kowal announced a commitment to hosting monthly campus-wide town halls, starting on Friday, February 16, at noon. Subsequent town halls will be scheduled every third Friday of the following months to keep everyone updated and address questions. These town halls will serve as a platform for gathering, discussing, and aligning on the institution's journey forward.

In closing, President Kowal expressed gratitude for the unwavering commitment to CCC, emphasizing that the institution is defined not by its location but by its people and the core focus on providing top-quality education to students.