Building Ongoing Relationships. During the course of the past year, I have made outreach to Long Islanders via numerous public engagements. The Long Island Association invited me as a guest speaker for the inaugural meeting of its Health, Education and Not-For-Profit Committee, where we discussed the role of community colleges in training the Long Island workforce. Co-chairs Stony Brook President Samuel Stanley and Long Island Market President of Bank of America Robert Isaksen, presided over the event.



With more than 4,000 graduates, this past year's commencement was the largest ever.

I was also invited to deliver greetings during Long Island University-Riverhead's commencement for the inaugural class of graduates from that location.

I was the honoree and accepted an award from the Suffolk Salvation Army during their 50th annual golf outing. As part of my annual calendar of Foundation activities, I attended the Foundation's Annual Faculty Appreciation Luncheon where faculty were honored for many accomplishments including receiving the Chancellor's Award, and its annual gala, where we recognized Roger P. Smith, A.I.A. from BBS Architects & Engineers; Eric Brown, SCCC; and The Honorable Rudrawatee Nan Ramgoolam, Consul General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, New York.

On campus, I presided over the largest college-wide commencement in our history. With 4,012 graduates – over 1,000 of whom were in attendance – this was a noteworthy occasion for the College, and one I will always remember. The College is committed to seeing students graduate and transfer and the growth in the size of our graduating classes is encouraging and shows progress. I conducted Town Hall Meetings on all three campuses in the fall and spring semesters. I also enjoyed the opportunity to lead this year's Honor's Tea book discussion. In addition, through funding from the College's Foundation, we were able to support the work of many area non-profits during the course of the year.

I was invited to present at the 3rd Annual College/Career Week Program at the Mulligan Intermediate School in the Central Islip School District. This event gave us an opportunity to speak to 1,000 5th and 6th graders, motivating and inspiring them into understanding the importance of education as well as to discuss their preparation for college.

