



State of Connecticut  
Department of Higher Education

# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CONTACT: CONNIE FRASER • 860/947-1801 (W)**  
**860/986-3508 (CELL)**  
**CFRASER@CTDHE.ORG**

For Immediate Release: Thursday, May 15, 2008

## ***Department of Higher Education Sets Up Website for Gibbs College Students Information will Help Students Plan as College Phases Out Programs***

HARTFORD, May 15 — With the announcement of the 2009 planned closure of Gibbs College, the Connecticut Department of Higher Education has created a website for Gibbs students to use in planning the completion of their studies.

Students at both of Gibbs locations in Connecticut – *Norwalk* and *Farmington* – can go to **[www.ctdhe.org/gibbs](http://www.ctdhe.org/gibbs)** to learn of options for transferring credit to other colleges, counseling and news updates. Students also can contact the Department's Education & Employment Information Center toll-free at 800/842-0229 or at **[eeic@ctdhe.org](mailto:eeic@ctdhe.org)**. The Department expects that most students will be able to complete their studies as planned at Gibbs but hopes the website will provide them greater assurance, options and contact information should they have questions or encounter problems.

The owners of Gibbs College, the Career Education Corporation, announced plans in February to “teach out” all programs offered by Gibbs by December 31, 2009. Since then, staff from the Department of Higher Education has been working with Gibbs officials to assure a smooth transition for all students, and also has collaborated with area colleges to facilitate student transfer. The Department also has asked Kurt Peterson, president of Gibbs College, to brief the Board of Governors for Higher Education on the latest developments at Gibbs at its Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at the University of Connecticut's School of Business Graduate Learning Center in downtown Hartford.

“Our goal is to make sure Gibbs students are informed of all of their options and new developments as they happen,” stated Michael P. Meotti, Commissioner of Higher Education. “Gibbs College, to date, has been very responsive to our requests for information and has shown a strong commitment to helping students manage this transition. We have every reason to believe this will continue.

“At this time, eight colleges have made special arrangements for Gibbs College students who wish to transfer – we very much appreciate their cooperation and hope others can make it possible to accept Gibbs credits as well although we understand the complexity of the accreditation issues involved,” Meotti added.

The eight colleges, listed on the Department's website, are: Briarwood College, Charter Oak State College, Goodwin College, Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Norwalk Community College, Post University, Saint Joseph College and the University of Bridgeport.

According to figures submitted to the Department of Higher Education, Gibbs enrolls 919 students across its two Connecticut locations in 14 associate programs ranging from business administration to criminal justice and fashion design in addition to two certificate programs in computer technical support and executive assistant. To keep up with future developments, Gibbs students are encouraged to register their email addresses with the Department of Higher Education, and all will receive an email message from Commissioner Meotti informing them of the agency's website and toll-free number.

\* \* \* \* \*