

Dr. James. P. Lombella, President

Asnuntuck Community College & Tunxis Community College

Dr. James Lombella began his career as the founder of a retail and service company at age nineteen. Following that successful start-up, he joined Jen Coat, Inc., where he was appointed to the position of Quality Control and Internal ISO 9000 Lead Auditor. After Jen-Coat, he spent time in two successive companies: Plastipak Packaging Company and the Pepperidge Farm division of the Campbell Soup company. He was an Operations Manager at both companies.

Dr. Lombella joined Asnuntuck in 2009, in the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center (AMTC) as an Adjunct Credit Instructor while assisting in the development of the guidelines for the S.M.A.R.T. (Skills for Manufacturing and Related Technologies) grant for the State of Connecticut.

From 2010 through 2012, he was the Director and then Associate Dean of Workforce Development and Continuing Education, where he supervised the operations of Workforce Development, Continuing Education, Business and Industry, and the Marketing divisions of the college. In 2012, he became the CFO/Dean of Administration of the college, and subsequently maintained those responsibilities while also serving as the college's Interim President and Chief Executive Officer from May of 2013 to May 2014.

On May 30, 2014, the Board of Regents for Higher Education announced that Dr. Lombella had been selected to be the fourth President of Asnuntuck Community College.

In 2017, the Board of Regents for Higher Education appointed Dr. Lombella to also be the Interim President of Tunxis Community College in Farmington in a dual presidential role across both institutions.

Dr. Lombella was a panelist for the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals' (NAWDP) regional conference in 2011, and currently serves as a Steering Committee member for New England's Knowledge Corridor. He was a panelist for that organization's 2015 "State of the Region" Conference where he discussed the findings and recommendations of the New England Council and Deloitte Consulting LLP report entitled "Advance to Advantageous: *The Case for New England's Manufacturing Revolution.*" He has served as a member of the Rotary Club in Enfield, Connecticut, and currently serves as a board member for both the Asnuntuck Community College Foundation and Tunxis Community College Foundation. Dr. Lombella is a member/college representative for the North Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce and has served on multiple occasions on the organization's Scholarship Committee. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Capital Workforce Partners, and is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education.

Dr. Lombella was a keynote speaker at the plenary session of the American Association of Community Colleges and National Science Foundation's joint 24th National ATE Principal Investigators Conference 2017, in Washington, D.C., on issues related to advanced technological education. Additionally, he was a featured speaker at the Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce's Economic Forecast Breakfast in 2018, and was the keynote speaker for the 2018 Farmington Economic Development Commission's Business Breakfast.

Dr. Lombella was one of 35 college presidents in the nation to receive the 2018 Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction during Phi Theta Kappa's annual convention and centennial celebration in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Lombella, who is a proud first-generation community college graduate, holds a Master of Management degree from Cambridge College, and received his Doctor of Education from the Abraham S. Fischler School of Education at Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Lombella is passionate about the transformative power of education and keeps students at the center of all decisions he makes.