

April 26, 2006

UAlbany finance veep to update neighborhood association group

By JOSEPHINE ORSINI

During the McKownville Improvement Association's next meeting in May, the group will welcome a guest speaker from University at Albany.

The association invites speakers to attend its monthly meetings to address issues and concerns, while at the same time continuing open communications with the university.

Kathy Lowery, vice president of finance and planning at SUNY, will hold a discussion on May 11 about the future development of the campus and the concerns of those in the surrounding areas.

"I plan to give an update on facility type projects," said Lowery, "including the Nanoscale College, which already has several buildings and is continuing to develop on that site."

The Nanoscale College is the first college in the world to be exclusively involved in the development of nanoscience. This \$1 billion center is located within the SUNY NanoTech complex and is continuing to grow.

Among other developments, the college will be opening a new administrative building on campus.

"The university's plans about expansion of its Nanoscale College, new buildings on the Harriman Campus and new buildings and programs on its main campus are all terribly important to McKownville," said Don Reeb, president of the McKownville Improvement Association and SUNY faculty member.

Lowery suspects a majority of the concerns will be about traffic, which seems to be an issue that McKownville is very concerned about with the development of the university as a whole.

"To be neighbors to a major

education center with its new programs in education and technology is very exciting," said Reeb. "But it also brings concerns about traffic, pollution and so forth."

Various faculty members from SUNY have attended association meetings in order to receive feedback and answer questions concerning the campus evolution.

"Don's a faculty member at the University so we periodically meet with (MIA) to keep in touch," said Lowery. "They have

a lot of suggestions."

Lowery as well as other faculty members have been invited to speak at the association's meetings, and they have also invited them to SUNY for get-togethers.

Lowery is looking forward to the upcoming meeting and the chance to talk with group members.

The meeting will take place on Thursday, May 11 at 7 p.m. in the Holiday Inn on Western Avenue. All are welcome.

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