BC3 lands featured capitol speaker 2nd year in a row

Butler alumnus-turned-trustee to address hundreds about advantages of community college

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(Butler, PA) The Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges has selected a Butler attorney to address hundreds of students, faculty, administrators and lawmakers as a featured speaker at Lobby Day on Tuesday at the state Capitol.

Joseph E. Kubit, 54, of Cabot, is a trustee at Butler County Community College, where he earned an associate degree in secondary education in 1984. The Knoch High graduate also earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology at the University of Pittsburgh, and from its School of Law, a law degree.

Lobby Day, says Danielle Gross, the commission's director of public affairs, "raises awareness with elected officials about the impact community colleges have on the commonwealth, and advocates for funding in the state budget."

Joining Kubit as a featured speaker will be Scott Duffy, a Delaware County Community College student who succeeds BC3's Maizee Zaccone as the 2017 New Century Scholar; and Thomas P. Leary, Luzerne County Community College president and chair of the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges.

"Pennsylvania's 14 community colleges are blessed with outstanding boards, alumni, faculty, staff and students," said Dr. Nick Neupauer, BC3 president. "For BC3 to have a featured speaker for the second year in a row speaks to our quality as an institution and leader in the commonwealth."

Like Zaccone, Duffy was named Pennsylvania's New Century Scholar by achieving the state's highest score in the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition.

Kubit will address the crowd at an 11 a.m. press conference in the Main Rotunda and plans to speak about the success stories he and his relatives attribute to BC3. Four cousins and his brother also attended BC3 and became an anesthesiologist, a prosthodontist, an airline's director of engineering, a student aid service representative and an engineer-in-charge of the Academy Awards.

"Joe Kubit is an incredible example of what our institution of higher education produces – high-quality students who make an impact in society," Neupauer says. "What makes the story even better is all of those in his family who also started at BC3."