



Greater New York Hospital Association

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Kenneth E. Raske, President

January
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The Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA) is pleased to express its strong support for Hunter College's proposed Science and Health Professions building on 2nd Avenue between East 67th and East 68th Streets. The plan is an innovative public-private partnership that offers a much-needed opportunity to address the critical shortage of nurses and healthcare professionals that is facing hospitals and providers in our City and State, as well as advance New York as a vital center of science and medicine.

The location of Hunter's current main campus -- in the scientific and medical hub that is the Upper East Side of Manhattan -- is crucial for the continuation of strategic partnerships that advance science and medicine and provide the best possible medical care for New Yorkers. A new public science and health professions facility in the neighborhood would add to the international renown of the mix, provide Hunter with the space and technology it requires to be an active partner, and permit the geographic proximity that is necessary in a field that involves frequent lab visits and time-dependent action and observation.

Hunter College is a leader in the sciences and medicine, and it has an unparalleled record of success in training a large number of women and minorities in these fields. In addition to training research scientists, Hunter professors are also preparing the diverse workforce of men and women who will enter such professions as nursing, medical technology, and physical therapy. Hunter's programs in these fields, which have long been nationally recognized, are now needed more than ever, owing to the personnel shortages in these areas. GNYHA's membership of hospitals and continuing care facilities recognizes the importance of training a diverse cadre of health care professionals to address the critical nursing shortage and to be in a location to facilitate closer contact between its faculty and practicing professionals in the area.

GNYHA is also particularly pleased that the City University of New York (CUNY) has announced plans for a new school of Public Health to be located at Hunter College and housed in the proposed new Science and Health Professions building. This would be the first *public* school of public health in New York City, and would serve as an unparalleled resource for the entire metropolitan area.

With a brand new state-of-the-art building, constructed with 21st century needs in mind, Hunter will become an even greater resource for the scientific and medical community of New York City and beyond. I look forward to working with Hunter College and CUNY leadership in supporting this groundbreaking plan as it moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. E. Raske". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kenneth E. Raske
President