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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GIFFORD FOUNDATION ELECTS NEW OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

(Syracuse, NY) At its Annual Meeting in December 2009 the Gifford Foundation elected new officers and members, it was announced today. **M. Catherine Richardson** of Syracuse will serve as president of the Board of Trustees for a three-year term commencing in 2010. Richardson, an attorney, is retired from the law firm of Bond Schoeneck and King. She serves on a number of corporate, nonprofit and association boards throughout New York. Joining her as officers will be **Billy Harper**, Syracuse, as vice president, **Doris Danchi**, Clay, as treasurer and **Ben Walsh**, Syracuse, as secretary. In addition to the new officers, the Foundation has announced that **Nancy J. Bellow** of Oswego was elected as a new member of the board.

"I am honored to be offered this opportunity to lead the Gifford Foundation into the next decade," stated Richardson. "The Foundation has met the challenges of the last two years boldly and imaginatively – I look forward to continuing on the exciting path laid out by my predecessors."

Ms. Bellow joins the board for a three-year term. She is the Executive Director of the President's Office of Business and Community Relations at SUNY – Oswego. She also supervises the Small Business Development Center, is Executive Director of Leadership Oswego County, and Executive Director of the Workforce Development Board of Oswego County, Inc.

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“Nancy will be a wonderful addition to our board,” notes Richardson. “Not only is she our first representative from Oswego County, she brings extensive knowledge of workforce development, economic development and nonprofit management.”

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Photos of Ms. Bellow and Ms. Richardson are below and attached.



M. Catherine Richardson



Nancy J. Bellow