

Assembly Resolution No. 1352

**BY:** M. of A. Buttenschon

**HONORING** Dr. George J. Searles upon the occasion of his retirement after 45 years of distinguished service as a professor, author and distinguished public servant

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize the lasting achievements and legacies of those individuals who substantially contribute to the education and quality of life of our communities, its citizenry and the entire State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. George J. Searles, Professor in the School of Humanities, upon the occasion of his retirement after 45 years of distinguished service to Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. George J. Searles began his illustrious career at Mohawk Valley Community College (MVCC) in 1976 as faculty in the Humanities Department, he advanced to become a professor, teaching English and related courses; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. George J. Searles is known as a renowned scholar on Philip Roth and John Updike, having published books, interviews and essays on both authors; the Philip Roth Society established the George J. Searles Award in 2025 as recognition of his expertise; he is an advisory editor of the Roth Society's academic journal, based at Purdue University; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. George J. Searles' dedication to MVCC and his students was recognized with the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching (1985) and the Chancellor's Award for Scholarship & Creative Activities (2003); in addition to achieving the highest academic rank in the SUNY system with the SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professorship (2021), Dr. George J. Searles was proclaimed New York State Professor of the Year (2002) by the Carnegie Foundation and was recognized as Advancement of Teaching New York State Professor of the Year (2002); and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. George J. Seales is a masterful instructor who demonstrates patience and respect for his students and their writing while providing a unique learning experience based on individual student needs; his textbook, "Workplace Communications: The Basics" was born out of the needs of his students, now in its eighth edition, it is used in over 200 colleges in the United States and internationally, including Canada, Saudi Arabia, and China; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. George J. Searles has been a fountain of knowledge and resource to students and colleagues alike, having authored 15 books, many reports, essays and articles, garnering widespread respect, accolades and notoriety; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the intent of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dr. George J. Searles upon the occasion of his retirement after 45 years of distinguished service to Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, New York, and to wish him well in his future endeavors; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. George J. Searles.