



**Executive Director:**  
Robert Fiume

**Authority Members:**  
Michael Dougherty  
Martha Dougher  
Carmen Libassi, chairman  
Justin Sulla  
Gregg Nieto

Contact: Gretchen M. Wintermantel  
(570) 346-2061, ext. 1217 / (703) 868-6804  
Jan. 6, 2012

## Free Unlimited Access to COLTS for Marywood and U of S Begins Monday

Scranton, Pa. – The County of Lackawanna Transit System (COLTS) will begin offering free unlimited access to its entire bus system to all students, faculty and staff from Marywood University and The University of Scranton with a current college ID starting on Jan. 9.

COLTS sought to expand upon partnerships it developed last Spring that allowed Marywood and University of Scranton students to ride two COLTS routes free of charge, with each institution subsidizing the cost of its number of riders each month. Now, each university will pay COLTS a fixed fee for unlimited access based on the number of students, faculty and staff at each institution.

“We are very excited to begin this expanded relationship with our two largest local universities. Obviously this is a great benefit to students, who will be able to get around our entire service area at no cost to them,” said COLTS Executive Director Bob Fiume. “But we also see this as a way to encourage students to patronize local businesses, and for all us to help the environment. This is a win-win for everyone.”

“The extensive COLTS network will give our campus community access to shopping, dining, entertainment, attractions and other area colleges,” said Edward Steinmetz, vice president for finance/treasurer at The University of Scranton. “It will also provide transportation options for internships, community service and employment.”

Joseph X. Garvey, vice president for business affairs and treasurer at Marywood University, said, “Marywood is very pleased to partner with COLTS and The University of Scranton in this program that is beneficial to our schools’ students, faculty, and staff, and to the community as a whole.”

Mr. Fiume noted that other public transit systems have similar arrangements with the higher institutions in their service areas, including Centre Area Transportation Authority, or CATA-BUS, which serves Penn State’s Main Campus.

COLTS hopes to work with other colleges in the area to see if a similar agreement would meet their students’ needs.