



**NATIONAL COUNCIL ON
BLACK AMERICAN AFFAIRS**
OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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Northeast Region Fall 2012 Newsletter



Photos by Theresa Knox

Premier National Scholarship Goes to LaGuardia Community College Student Scholar

Harmonie Kobanghe, a LaGuardia Community College honor student and campus leader whose commitment to social justice is leading her to a law degree and a career as a human rights activist for Congolese women who were victims of war, is the recipient of 2012 Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, a premier national scholarship.

The gift, which supports high-achieving students with financial needs, will provide Harmonie, who is transferring to Georgetown University, with \$30,000 a year throughout her undergraduate experience. The LaGuardia scholarship winner was one of 60 scholars selected from a field of 786 applicants from 349 community colleges that not only demonstrated outstanding records of achievement, but also service, leadership and community involvement. The scholar will be eligible for further funding for her graduate studies.

For the international student who does not qualify for financial aid, she said this scholarship will help her to achieve her academic and career goals.

Her goal to aid women who were the tragic victims of civil war and rape in the Democratic Republic of Congo, her parent's homeland, was shaped by the isolation and racism she experienced as a black woman growing up in the seedy neighborhoods of France.

Throughout her three years at the college, the liberal arts: social science and humanities major had a stellar academic career, maintaining a 3.94 G.P.A. As one of the top students in the Honors Program, Harmonie not only completed the Honors Concentration by taking at least seven Honors courses.

"Harmonie's achievements are simply outstanding," said Dr. Gail O. Mellow, president of LaGuardia. "Her potential to improve our world is unlimited. Each year, across the nation,

community colleges are educating students with the skills, knowledge and passion of a person like Harmonie. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is to be applauded for recognizing and supporting the talented students that emerge from LaGuardia and other community colleges."

"As a passionate human rights advocate, Harmonie selected extracurricular projects that would fulfill her interests in social justice. Harmonie has clearly laid out her academic and career paths. At Georgetown, Harmonie will be majoring in international relations with a minor in women's and gender studies.

After earning a bachelor's degree she plans on completing a law degree with a focus on international women human's rights. Ultimately, as a human rights lawyer, she hopes to create an international organization to help the women of the Congo who were victims of violence and war reclaim their lives, become empowered, and gain a voice in the governance of their countries.

So I always keep in sight my dream of going to the Congo to improve the lives of others, just like others have done for me."

LaGuardia Community College located in Long Island City, Queens, was founded in 1971 as a bold experiment in opening the doors of higher education to all. LaGuardia is part of the City University of New York (CUNY).



Honor Students Awarded Prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Scholars

Carlos Biaou (College Park, Md.) and **Satcha Robinson** (Cheverly, Md.), honor students at Prince George's Community College, have each received the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship worth \$30,000 per year. Biaou and Robinson will transfer to University of Maryland, College Park to major in electrical engineering and American University to study international business respectively.

Biaou, a native of Benin (West Africa), will receive an associate of science degree in electrical engineering after earning a 3.9 grade point average at Prince George's Community College. He was recognized for a host of academic honors including membership in the Honors Program, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Dean's List, and Mu Alpha

Theta (National High School and Two-Year College Mathematics Honor Society. Biaou has been an active member of the community and participated in the Walk Now for Autism Speaks, Christmas in April Prince George's County, Upward

Bound Program and the International Education Center at Prince George's Community College.

Robinson completed requirements for the associate of science degree in business administration with a 3.9 grade point average. In addition to her academic success, she served as secretary of Prince George's Community College Tau Pi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, volunteered with Walk Now for Autism Speaks and Jericho Food Shelter and captain of Prince George's Community College Women's Soccer Team. Robinson helped low-income residents file their taxes by participating in Prince George's Community College's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program.

"Satcha Robinson and Carlos Biaou have chosen to set a high bar for all of our students and their determination reminds all of us about how important our work is to the lives of the people we serve each day," said Dr. Charlene M. Dukes, president of Prince George's Community College. "Very few students in the nation receive such a prestigious recognition and we, the faculty, students and staff, celebrate this important milestone with them and their families."



Students Graduate Ready for Construction Jobs Under New Program

Students at two **Red Clay Consolidated School District** high schools can graduate ready to enter several construction-related career fields under a new, joint program with **Delaware Technical Community College**.

The "Construction and Renovation Certificate Program" will allow students at John Dickinson and Thomas McKean high schools to earn nationally recognized certifications, and Delaware Tech course completion certificates, when they finish high school.

The program begins its pilot year during the 2012-2013 school year for high school juniors, who will attend classes at their home school for part of the day and train at Delaware Tech's state-of-the-art Innovation and Technology Center in New Castle for the remainder of the day.

"The Delaware Department of Labor is proud to be recognizing the partnership between Red Clay and Delaware Tech of this very exciting program to introduce students to the skilled trades," said John J. McMahon, Jr, Delaware secretary of labor. "Congratulations to all stakeholders in seeking to provide this opportunity for our students."

In addition to their high school diploma, students will have an opportunity to graduate with the necessary training and certifications needed for entry-level construction jobs.

"These are 'real time' job skills, provided in a post-high school environment, that we hope will encourage students to remain in school while they work toward a rewarding future," said Red Clay Superintendent Mervin B. Daugherty.



"It is an example of how the public school system can work with post-secondary institutions and the private sector to create meaningful programs for our young people."

The program was developed by the Red Clay Office of District Services, headed by Burton Watson, and Delaware Tech's Corporate and Community Programs, directed by Paul T. Morris.

Red Clay school leaders believe the program will provide a rewarding option for their students. "This is a unique opportunity, to be able to offer such an advanced, specialized program at a traditional high school," said Byron Murphy, principal of John Dickinson High School. "For some of our students, this could be the reason they stay in school. Students who complete this program will have gone a long way toward preparing themselves for a successful future."

Mentoring Programs at Manchester Community College

The **Sister-2-Sister** and **Brother-2-Brother** programs (launched in the fall of 2008) have been organized to address institutional concerns regarding the academic success rates of Latin and African-American students, as well as to respond to requests by students, to have more formalized opportunities for this type of programming. Our mission is to provide additional support, mentoring, and encouragement to students, as they work towards their academic and professional goals. Sister-2-Sister and Brother-2-Brother is committed to the personal, academic, social and cultural development of each member by:

- Equipping them with the necessary tools and resources to pursue, achieve and maintain academic excellence
- Encouraging them to cultivate positive peer and adult relationships



- Helping them engage in their learning process
- Promoting student leadership and service to the community

Mentor/Mentee Expectation and Commitment

This mentoring relationship will bring many exciting opportunities, skills, and knowledge for both, mentor and mentee. Mentors and Mentees are expected to:

- Commit to the mentor/mentee relationship for a minimum of one academic year;
- Meet with mentor/mentee regularly (includes: face to face, phone, and e-mail contact) as determined by goals mutually set at the first meeting;
- Act in a positive and appropriate manner, and demonstrate respect and consideration;
- Take the opportunity to learn from your mentor/mentee, just as they will learn from you;
- Value diversity and be sensitive to the uniqueness of each individual or situation;
- (Mentors)-Accept that you do not have all the answers, and refer mentee to the appropriate resources (Mentees)-Accept that you do not know all of the answers and be willing to listen, learn and accept feedback;
- Listen without judging;
- Be honest.

BCCC has been removed from probation

Dr. Carolane Williams, president of Baltimore City Community College for the past five years, says of the recent turmoil at the school, "I knew I was going to have to tough it out."

Carolane Williams does not flinch when confronted with the particulars of her difficult year, which included an employee uprising and unwanted scrutiny from the leader of the state. "I knew I was going to have to tough it out," says the woman who has led Baltimore City Community College for the past five years.

After a turbulent year marked by internal conflict, probation from its accrediting agency and sharp criticism from Gov. Martin O'Malley, the college is finally making positive strides, according to Williams, board Chairman Gary Rodwell and faculty president Chima Ugah.

"The current climate is like night and day compared to last year," Ugah says. "It was toxic."

Ugah's comments come 13 months after the faculty issued a vote of no confidence in Williams' leadership, citing poor communications and autocratic decision-making.

That was only the beginning of the president's troubles. In July, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education put the college on probation, saying the institution lacked any comprehensive method for assessing student achievement.

Then, in September 2011, O'Malley overhauled the college's board, appointing five new members. Williams did not take O'Malley's rebuke quietly. In a letter, dated four days before O'Malley announced his new appointments to the college's board, Williams said she was bothered by a "disparaging" comment the governor made during a phone conversation between the two. O'Malley had criticized Dr. Williams and the board for "not taking the interests of students seriously."

Rodwell says the college had significantly increased its number of graduates and its enrollments in science, technology, engineering and math, all areas of interest to O'Malley. Asked three months later for her reaction to O'Malley's criticisms, Williams smiles and says, "Who am I to question the governor of the state?"

Williams, Rodwell and Ugah all say the new board has been helpful in getting the college on track.



The new trustees, who include a Venable attorney, downtown business leaders and representatives from Morgan State and Johns Hopkins universities, deferred comment to their chairman.

"I think the new members are magnifying the need for data-driven accountability," says Rodwell, who has served on the board since 2009.

He, Williams and Ugah also agree that the Middle States probation has unified the campus behind a single goal.

"It has, by necessity, demanded more frequent and effective communication among faculty, staff and the administration, more intense collaboration on measuring student learning outcomes," Rodwell says.

BCCC Accreditation Affirmed

Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) is very pleased to announce the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) has removed BCCC from probation.

The commission evaluates colleges on a wide range of standards, including their educational offerings, faculty, and mission. The commission had expressed concerns in one area: that there was insufficient evidence to show that the college adequately collected and assessed data on student learning outcomes. The college is now in compliance with the commission standards on assessment of student learning.

Dr. Carolane Williams, BCCC president, credits teamwork and the dedication of the entire college community for the positive outcomes. "The challenges from MSCHE have enabled BCCC to emerge as a stronger institution, better prepared to meet the needs of our students, our businesses and our community."



GCC Celebrates Grand Opening of its New Downtown Campus



Gateway Community College (GCC) recently held grand opening ceremonies for its new \$198 million downtown campus, one of the largest construction projects the state of Connecticut has ever undertaken.

The new campus brings hundreds of jobs and thousands of students to downtown New Haven and adds a new higher education partner to the downtown landscape.

It also transforms a former brownfield into a state-of-the-art “green” facility as the largest public project in Connecticut and the largest project on any college campus in the state that is designed to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Gateway president, Dr. Dorsey Kendrick said, “In the beginning, we had both a great challenge and an ambitious dream: a state-of-the-art, unified campus to better serve the

educational needs of our students and our community,” “We believed in our dream. We persevered. And, together with our partners and supporters, we acted. And build we did. We watched in awe as this amazing building rose in steel, concrete and glass over the past months, taking its rightful place in the downtown New Haven skyline, where it will serve as a center of learning, promise and hope.”



“Now, at last, we are poised to begin the real journey, the one that truly counts,” she said. “It’s time for us together as faculty, staff, administration, students, parents, business leaders, community members and supporters to deliver on the promise and the potential this new campus offers. We must grow. We must excel. But most of all, we must educate and graduate students well-prepared to meet society’s challenges and become contributing, productive, active citizens. And we will do all this not only because it’s what’s expected of us, but because it’s the right thing to do.”

GCC is one of the Connecticut’s fastest growing community colleges and the 10th largest institution of higher education in the state, serving more than 11,000 credit and non-credit students each year. The 3.7-acre campus occupies two city blocks in the heart of downtown New Haven. The two buildings, which total 367,000 square feet, are connected by a three-story bridge over George Street.

Moving Forward, With Fiterman Hall

One of the striking architectural features of The Miles and Shirley Fiterman Hall is its multi-story, sweeping windows, which now show stunning circular staircases and airy lobbies, as well as classrooms bustling with students at tables, computers, and in study groups.

This fall, almost eleven years since the original Fiterman Hall was damaged beyond repair on September 11, a spectacular new Fiterman Hall opened for its first day of classes.



“Fiterman Hall is all about moving forward,” said BMCC **President Antonio Pérez**. “It’s not about looking back and trying to reconstruct the past and dwell on all the negative things that we as an institution have had to endure. It’s really about the students’ dreams and aspirations, before us now.”

“That feeling of success”

“The building design for an inner city campus is really ideal for students,” said Josh Wolfson, Chair of the Accounting Department. “The classrooms are airy, they’re bright, they’re windowed, they’re really beautiful. But also, there is space for students outside the classroom; work areas, study areas.”



Looking forward to making memories

In addition to study and conference areas tucked all over the building, as well as a café, Fiterman Hall offers double-height music ensemble and art classrooms, rehearsal spaces, and performance areas overlooking the building’s inspiring southern views onto the World Trade Memorial Park and rising World Trade Center.

It will also house The Shirley Fiterman Art Center, showcasing established artists and inspiring student artists honing their craft in class.

Student Anthony Estevez summed it up, “It’s a brand new building, we’re the first ones to see it, and I look forward to making a lot of memories here,” he said.

Building Partnerships to Support Education in America Dismantle the Cradle to Prison Pipeline and Close the Achievement Gap

Testimony Presented at the

2012 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 42nd Annual Legislative Conference.

by Dr. Irving Pressley McPhail

President and CEO, National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Inc. (NACME)

September 20, 2012

African Americans in Engineering

African Americans comprise only 5 percent of all engineering bachelor's degrees. This stands in rather stark contrast to data showing that African Americans represent at least 12 percent of the U.S. adult population, 14 percent of the youth population, and 13 percent of all undergraduate enrollments.

NACME's analysis also shows that across all levels of degree attainment in engineering, African American women's representation continues to grow. In 2010, 7.6 percent of all bachelor's degrees in engineering earned by women were earned by African Americans, compared to 4.8 percent for African American men. Compared with other student groups, our students are less likely to complete their degrees, take longer to complete their degrees, and transfer to and complete an associate degree or certificate program at a higher level.

The Business Case for Diversity in the Engineering Workforce

The current attack on affirmative action in university admissions policy—*Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin*—offers an interesting window on the business case for diversity in the engineering workforce. The Supreme Court held in *Grutter v. Bollinger* (2003) that student body diversity is a compelling governmental interest that can justify the use of race-conscious admissions in higher education.

In the *Fisher* case, it is critical to convey to the Supreme Court that corporate America is opposed to any dilution of the diversity efforts that were found lawful in *Grutter*.

In June, President Obama announced an expansion of Skills for America's Future. The initiative, launched by the Obama administration last year, exemplifies the power of the PPP model; promoting partnerships among industry and community colleges to focus on workforce development strategies and the educational necessities that will prepare America's youth for the jobs that will drive our economic growth.

The focus on community colleges in the Skills for America's Future is a critical one as these institutions provide minority and economically disadvantaged students access to pursue opportunities in STEM. NACME has established a similar PPP model in Milwaukee.

The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) recently launched a PPP between various states, Innovate+Educate, to advance STEM education. This partnership shares information on best practices for revamping their higher education systems and leveraging industry investments.

Recommendations

NACME Calls to Action for Business:

- Form partnerships with K-12 schools to promote STEM careers and education to underrepresented minority students, including providing STEM employees to serve as role models and mentors, offering on-site internships to students and teachers and providing access to the latest equipment and software.
- Use political capital to prompt government to address the "New" American Dilemma and institute policies that support the education and career preparation of underrepresented minorities.
- Include recruiting underrepresented minorities as part of workforce development and hiring strategies, and broaden college recruiting efforts to include institutions that traditionally enroll large numbers of underrepresented minorities.
- Make diversity a part of company values and support diversity through policies and systems.
- Recognize the demographic changes in the American population and prepare to develop a workforce made up increasingly of women and people of color.



BCCC receives \$600,000 grant to create science, technology jobs

Mikulski, Cardin announce funding initiative from National Science Foundation

Baltimore City Community College has received a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to help prepare minority students for careers in science, technology, engineering and math. The grant, announced Monday by Sens. Barbara A. Mikulski and Ben Cardin, will fund 126 scholarships over a five-year period for programs such as robotics and computer-aided design and drafting.

In announcing the grant, Mikulski said she is "so proud of BCCC's leadership in preparing today's students for tomorrow's careers."

New Study Explores the Impact on Poor Black Women of the High Incarceration Rate of Men

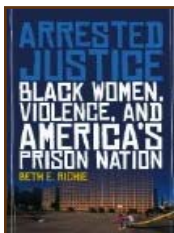


Beth Richie, a professor of African American studies and gender and women's studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago has written a new book focusing on the impact on women in poverty neighborhoods of high incarceration rates among Black men. The book, *Arrested Justice: Black Women, Violence, and America's Prison Nation* (New York University Press, 2012), states that harsh sentencing for Black men, combined with gender dynamics in Black neighborhoods to propel some women into violent relationships and crime.

“While the impact on men is clear,” Dr. Richie states, “there are also significant ways that women experience the negative effects of the prison nation, especially those women who also experience gender violence. There is a new level of disdain toward Black women who are young, poor, queer, or living in vulnerable circumstances. The more stigmatized their social position, the easier it is to victimize them.”

Professor Richie concludes, “When America's prison nation is understood to be the backdrop for male violence against Black women, a new formulation of anti-violence politics will emerge.”

Dr. Richie is a graduate of Cornell University. She holds a master of social work degree from Washington University in St. Louis and a Ph.D. in sociology from the City University of New York.



Montgomery College Trustees Vote to Support Maryland Dream Act

The Montgomery College Board of Trustees voted unanimously to take a position in support of the ballot question on the Maryland Dream Act, a law that provides in-state tuition rates to undocumented college-aged students who meet certain requirements. The law has not yet taken effect because it was petitioned to referendum, and it will be placed on the November 2012 ballot.

The Maryland Dream Act is one more step in the College's mission to provide all Montgomery County students with access to higher education. The vote by the Board of Trustees is consistent with the College's long-standing practice to provide the lowest tuition rates to all recent Montgomery County Public Schools graduates.

The resolution says: “...there are many reasons for support of the Dream Act, including that it benefits both the students and the community by providing a valuable, better educated workforce, encouraging not only high school graduation but enabling higher education training at a tuition cost that is affordable and otherwise, without this Act, out of reach for most of these students; it leverages the public investment

already made in these students in the K-12 school system, and; it costs the taxpayers and the College very little and, in fact, the College may actually lose money if these students were not eligible for the lowest rate of tuition.”

“The Board of Trustees recognized the value of education, not only for an individual but for a community,” said Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, president of Montgomery College. “The vote is monumental for Montgomery College.”



Paul Peck Humanities Institute's Internships for Spring 2013

PPHI internships enable **Montgomery College** students to participate in professional museum and library activities at the Smithsonian, Library of Congress, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. This program offers students the chance to provide service to one of these institutions while feeding their passions for scholarship. Spring internships are a one-semester commitment of 16 hours spent per week at the internship site as well as enrollment in a three-credit MC Honors course. The internship includes a stipend of \$1,250. The PPHI mentors students as they create their application packets. Stumbling across partially bubble-wrapped mummies and discussing intellectual risk taking with top scholars have gone hand-in-hand with hearing about academic and professional careers that have sometimes spanned a century.



NEWS OF INTEREST

New Jersey's Union County College Opens Career Center to Serve College and the Community

In support of the "Union County Means Business" initiative, the College opened the Career Services Center on the Elizabeth Campus. The Center, in collaboration with partner nonprofits and government agencies will provide support for County residents through innovative, effective job-development services. The Center will benefit three key constituent groups: College students, local businesses, and local residents. The Center will provide access to credit programs leading to careers as well as noncredit job certifications.

At the core of the Center's mission will be service for the County's unemployed and underemployed. The County's "One Stop" service center will team up with the College's Center for Economic and Workforce Development, and the City's Retail Skills Center, to provide a pipeline to employment for the unemployed and underemployed. The Center will support the development of realistic educational and occupational goals, provide educational programs (such as in English as a Second Language, adult basic education, and college preparation) and occupational training to prepare local residents and students to compete in today's competitive job market.

As a gateway to regional businesses, the Center will serve as a one-stop information hub for regional job postings—both online and on a central board. In addition, local businesses through various Chambers of Commerce and the College's Industry-Business Institute will provide Union students and area residents the opportunity to bolster their credentials through internships and externships.



Pictured with President Margaret McMenam cutting the ribbon are Assemblyman Joseph Cryan, Senator Raymond Lesniak, Union County Freeholder Vice Chair Linda Carter, Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, Union County Freeholder Mohamed Jalloh, Union County Freeholder Vernell Wright, and Union County College Board of Trustees Chairman Victor M. Richel.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings!

I'm hopeful that you enjoy reading the Northeast Region's fall 2012 newsletter. We've attempted to gather newsworthy events and happenings that have occurred at the various campuses that comprise our region. I'd also like to extend a personal invitation for you to join us at our 2013 spring conference, **"Innovative Strategies for Sustainable Student Success"**. This year's conference will take place on March 14 and 15, 2013 at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD -a special thank you to the Morgan State University Community College Leadership Doctoral program for hosting this year's conference. Online registration for the conference will be available on our NCBA website beginning on December 1st.

I look forward to seeing you in March.

Collegial Regards

G. Duncan Harris, Ed. D., President
National Council on Black American Affairs,
Northeast Region



HOLD THE DATE

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON BLACK AMERICAN AFFAIRS/ NORTHEAST REGION

Morgan State University
Baltimore, Maryland

March 14-15, 2012

**"Innovative Strategies for
Sustainable Student Success"**



Best Colleges to Work For



For the third consecutive year, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* has named **Delaware County Community College** a Great College to Work For. The results were released as part of *The Chronicle's* fifth annual report on the Academic Workplace in which more than 47,000 employees from 294 institutions around the country were surveyed. Out of the 103 colleges recognized overall, the College is one of only two, 2-year colleges in Pennsylvania to earn this distinction in 2012.

"The 2012 *Great Colleges to Work For* distinction continues to be an excellent benchmark that shows we are part of a community that values the needs and contributions of every individual, works well together toward student success, and helps to make Delaware County Community College a great place to work," says College **President Dr. Jerry Parker**.

Great College to Work For is one of the largest and most-respected higher education workplace recognition programs in the country. This year's assessment was administered by ModernThink LLC and consisted of two-parts: a questionnaire about institutional characteristics and a survey of faculty and staff members' evaluations of their institution. The assessment also included an analysis of demographic data and workplace policies, including benefits, at each participating college. For more information and to view the survey results visit .

Founded in 1967, Delaware County Community College is the center of educational opportunity in Delaware and Chester Counties, serving more than 28,000 credit and non-credits students each year. The College welcomes and serves anyone seeking academic achievement, career advancement, or personal fulfillment.



Middlesex Community College is one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to a new survey by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. This is the first year MxCC has made the Great Colleges list. This year, MxCC is the only community college in Connecticut to be recognized.

The results are based on a survey of more than 46,000 employees at 294 colleges and universities. In all, only 103 of the 294 institutions achieved "Great College to Work For" recognition for specific best practices and policies. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* surveyed a random sample of MxCC employees who provided answers directly to the publication. Honorees were chosen based on responses to the survey and honored in one or more categories.

"I have known all along that Middlesex Community College is a 'Great College to Work For,' but it is very gratifying to have this affirmed by our employees and recognized by the Chronicle of Higher Education," said MxCC **President, Dr. Anna Wasescha**.

MxCC won honors in compensation and benefits this year.

MxCC employees believe that the pay is fair and benefits meet the needs of employees. Paternity and maternity leaves can be as long as six months, and health-insurance coverage extends into retirement.

U.S. News Names Its Top HBCUs



U.S. News & World Report has announced its annual rankings of America's best colleges and universities. Once again this year, the magazine has included a list of what its editors believe are the best historically black colleges and universities. The rankings are almost identical to last year's list.

Once again, **Spelman College** in Atlanta was rated the top HBCU. Following Spelman was **Howard University** in Washington, D.C., and **Morehouse College** in Atlanta. **Hampton University** in Virginia ranked fourth. **Fisk University** in Nashville, Tennessee, and **Xavier University** in New Orleans were tied for the fifth spot in the rankings.

Rounding out the top 10 black colleges and universities according to *U.S. News* are **Tuskegee University** in Alabama, **Claffin University** in Orangeburg, South Carolina, **Dillard University** in New Orleans, and **Florida A&M University** in Tallahassee.

Prince George's Community College Receives Upboard Bound Program

Prince George's Community College has been awarded \$1.25 million from the U.S. Department of Education over a five-year period for its Upward Bound Program. The initiative selects 50 low-income, potential first-generation high school students who need academic support. It is designed to grow participants' core college readiness and critical thinking skills, increase the rate at which students' complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education. Students in grades 9 through 12, ages 13-19, will receive tutoring, career, academic, personal and financial aid counseling.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, AND HONORS

Tracy Harris to Lead the Leonardtown Campus of the College of Southern Maryland



Tracy A. Harris was named dean of the Leonardtown campus of the College of Southern Maryland. He previously served as dean of enrollment services for Prince George's County Community College. Previously, he was an administrator at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

"My goals are simple – to serve the educational and personal enrichment needs of St. Mary's county residents, to support faculty and staff development, and to continue to support the strategic goals for CSM as a premier higher education institution," Dr. Harris said.

Dr. Harris is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University. He holds a master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a doctorate from Walden University.

Kenoye Eke Is the New Provost at Lincoln University of Pennsylvania Leadership

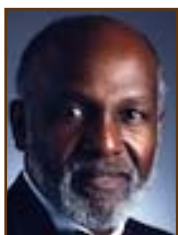


Lincoln University of Pennsylvania has announced that **Kenoye K. Eke** has been appointed provost and vice president of academic affairs. He began his new duties September 17, 2012. Since 2010 he has served as vice president for institutional advancement at Grambling State University in Louisiana. He is the former

provost at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, former vice president for academic affairs at Kentucky State University, and was the founding dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Savannah State University.

Dr. Eke is a graduate of Alabama A&M University. He holds a master's degree and a Ph.D. in political science from what is now Clark Atlanta University.

MIT's Wesley Harris Is Honored for Leadership in Advocating for Minorities in STEM Fields



Dr. Wesley L. Harris, professor of aeronautics and astronautics and associate provost for faculty equity at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been selected to receive the 2012 President's Award from the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers. Dr. Harris is being

honored for leadership in promoting the advancement of Black and other minorities in STEM disciplines. He will receive the award at the organization's annual conference in Washington.

Dr. Harris is a graduate of the University of Virginia. He holds a master's degree and a Ph.D. from Princeton University. He is the former dean of engineering at the University of Connecticut and served as associate administrator for aeronautics at NASA.

New Report Documents a Crisis in Black Male High School Graduation Rates, Racial Gap, Underserved Youth



The Good News: A new report from the Schott Foundation for Public Education finds that the high school graduation for Black males has improved significantly over the past decade.

The Bad News: The high school graduation for Black males continues to lag the rate for White males by a whopping 26 percentage points.

The data shows that in the 2010-11 academic year, 52 percent of the Black males who entered high school four years earlier earned their diplomas. For White males, the four-year high school graduation rate was 78 percent. But the four-year graduation rate for Black males has improved by 10 percentage points from the 2001-02 academic year.

"We have a responsibility to provide future generations of Americans with the education and the skills needed to thrive in communities, the job market and the global economy. Yet, too many Black and Latino young boys and men are being pushed out and locked out of the U.S. education system or find themselves unable to compete in a 21st Century economy upon graduating," said **John H. Jackson**, president and CEO of the Schott Foundation for Public Education. "These graduation rates are not indicative of a character flaw in the young men, but rather evidence of an unconscionable level of willful neglect, unequal resource allocation by federal, state, and local entities and the indifference of too many elected and community leaders. It's time for a support-based reform movement."

The report documents a huge disparity among the states in Black male graduation rates and the racial gap in graduation rates. In a handful of states, such as Arizona and Vermont, Blacks graduate at rates higher than Whites. In some states, including Nebraska and New York, the racial gap in the four-year graduation rates of Black and White males is more than 40 percentage points.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, AND HONORS

African American Professor Named Poet Laureate of the United States



Natasha Trethewey was named the nineteenth Poet Laureate of the United States. She will take the new post in September and will work in the Poets Room at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., from January to May.

Trethewey, who is also the poet laureate of the state of Mississippi, is the Charles Howard Candler Professor of English and Creative Writing at Emory University in Atlanta.

A native of Gulfport, Mississippi, Professor Trethewey is a graduate of the University of Georgia. She holds a master's degree from Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia, and a master of fine arts degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Former Associate Attorney General to Lead an Investigation of Roxbury Community College



This past June, Terrence A. Gomes, president of Roxbury Community College in Massachusetts, stepped down. The college is currently under investigation by the U.S. Department of Education and the auditor's office of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Now the college has hired **Wayne Budd**, a litigator with the law firm Goodwin Proctor and a former associate attorney general of the United States, to conduct a sweeping investigation of all allegations of mismanagement at the college. Budd is also expected to make recommendations on improving the college's financial oversight procedures.

Budd is a trustee of Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts, and the New England School of Law. He is a graduate of Boston College and the Wayne State University School of Law.

Dr. Gwendolyn W. Sanders, receives 2012 Catalyst for Change Award



The award pays tribute to exemplary leaders who have the courage and spirit to make a significant difference. According to the Founder/Executive Director of "Catalyst for Change", Kamika L. Bell, the award is given to ordinary people who exercise commitment, without extraordinary resources, to achieve amazing results in the areas of education, health, and community services. The Catalyst for Change award honors ordinary people who are making an extraordinary difference in the lives of young people.

Dr. Sanders, one of the founding members of NCBA, serves on the Northeast Region Board of Directors as a Vice President of Public Relations. She served as president of the Region for eight years and as Vice President of Organizational Vitality of the National Council for four years.

Freeman Hrabowski to Head New Commission on African American Education



Freeman A. Hrabowski III, president of the University of Maryland Baltimore County, has been appointed by President Obama to chair the newly created President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans.

"The nation's future will depend heavily on the extent to which we educate all of our nation's children," Dr. Hrabowski stated. "This commission will work to ensure that increasing numbers of African Americans excel academically."

He went on to say, "The work of my colleagues at UMBC has demonstrated that education in America can be both inclusive and excellent. Our African American students study with people from all over the world and achieve at the highest levels. I am delighted that the President is again committing to the success of all students."

Dr. Hrabowski has served as president of UMBC since 1992. He is a graduate of Hampton University and holds master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois.

The New Leader of the University of the District of Columbia Community College



Calvin E. Woodland was appointed interim CEO of the University of District of Columbia Community College. Jonathan Guevera, the former CEO of the college, left to become president of Florida Keys Community College in Key West. The UDC Community College, now in its fourth year, is currently searching for a permanent leader.

Dr. Woodland is the former president of Capital Community College in Hartford, Connecticut. He is past president of the National Council On Black American Affairs, Northeast Region (NCBAA/NE) and current member of the Council's Board of Directors. Dr. Woodland holds doctoral degrees from Rutgers University and the Southern California University for Professional Studies.

Major Appointment at Morgan State University



Morgan State University in Baltimore has announced the appointment of a new vice president.

DeWayne Wickham, is the new chair of the department of communication. He was a Distinguished Professor of Journalism and interim chair of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at North Carolina

A&T State University in Greensboro. Wickham, a founder and past president of the national Association of Black Journalists, is a columnist for *USA Today*.

Professor Wickham is a graduate of the University of Maryland. He holds a master of public administration degree from the University of Baltimore.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, AND HONORS

Linda Edmonds Turner to Lead Roxbury Community College



The Board of Trustees of Roxbury Community College has voted to recommend the appointment of **Dr. Linda Edmonds Turner** as interim president of the institution, effective July 2. Previously, Dr. Turner served as president of the Urban College of Boston (UCB), a two-year college that serves non-traditional students from lower-income and diverse neighborhoods throughout the city.

"We're pleased to welcome Dr. Linda Edmonds Turner to Roxbury Community College," said Anita Crawford, chair of RCC's Board of Trustees. "Dr. Turner is well aware of the challenges and opportunities that the College and our community face, and has a record of success. We look forward to her bringing a steady presence to this important institution during a time of transition." Dr. Turner earned an honors B.S. degree in Clothing, Textiles and Related Art. She received a M.B.A. and Ph.D. in Business Administration from Virginia Tech as well as a M.S. degree in General Ecology from Michigan State University. She also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Higher Education Administration at Harvard University.

Dr. Kenneth K. Saunders Appointed Officer in Charge of Nassau Community College



Dr. Kenneth K. Saunders was named Officer in Charge of Nassau Community College effective July 31, 2012.

Dr. Saunders earned a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Management and Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling from Howard University. In addition, he attended the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University. Dr. Saunders brings over 28 years of experience as a senior higher education administrator at several educational institutions. Most recently, he served as Executive Vice President of Nassau. Prior to that he was for twelve years the College's Vice President for Academic Student Services.

Nassau Community College, part of the State University of New York, is a 225-acre campus located in the center of Long Island. It is the largest single-campus two-year college in New York State.

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Prince George Community College Names New Dean



Yvette Snowden, Prince George's Community College alumna, has been named dean of Workforce Development and Community Partnerships in the Workforce Development and Continuing Education area. In her new role, Snowden is responsible for leadership, direction and oversight of more than 800 faculty and employees and all workforce development courses, programs and initiatives

New Athletic Director at Delaware State University, Dover



Candy E. Young was named director of athletics at Delaware State University in Dover. Young came to Delaware State in 2006 as the women's track and cross country coach. Earlier this year, she was named interim senior associate athletics director.

Young made the 1980 U.S. Olympic team and is a former world record holder in the 55-meter indoor hurdles. She is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University and holds a master's degree in sports management from Delaware State

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Thanks to the *Journal of Blacks in Higher Education* for the information provided.

Layout design by Wilson Aguilar