



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

ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE
“Changing Faces of the American Community College”



March 17 – 18, 2016
Essex County College, Newark, NJ

MISSION STATEMENT

VISION

The National Council on Black American Affairs serves as a collaborative voice promoting the academic success of African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators.

MISSION

The National Council on Black American Affairs is committed to:

- Improving educational opportunities and professional development for African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators.
- Developing collaborative relationships with educational, business and public service institutions with compatible goals.
- Networking to maximize the achievement of career goals for African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators;
- Ensuring the articulation of positions on issues affecting African-Americans in the formulation of policy and decision-making.

2015 Conference Planning Committee

Dr. Regan Hicks-Goldstein (Chair)

Dr. Carolyn H. Anderson

Dr. Michelle Bondima

Ms. Kellie Bryd Danso

Ms. Endia DeCordova

Mr. Jonelle Knox

Dr. Ronald Milon

Dr. Gwendolyn W. Sanders

Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry

Dr. Cheryl Smith

Dr. Carolyn G. Williams

Dr. Ladylease White -Essex Site Champion



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE

Greetings!

Welcome to Newark, New Jersey, and to the campus of Essex County College, where we are the home of the Wolverines and our motto is "Exceeding Expectations." It is indeed our pleasure to host the **2016 National Council on Black American Affairs – Northeast Region's Spring Conference.**

Essex County College has been a long-term supporter of the organization, hosting the conference twice in previous years. We welcome you back to our campus and look forward to sharing the many exciting and innovative activities that are in progress – all geared toward making a significant impact on student success, retention and graduation.

As you attend your workshops, I invite you to tour our campus and interact with our faculty, staff and students. We encourage you to take a look around and visit our Art Gallery, Center for Technology, Africana Institute, state-of-the-art Health Sciences Nursing Simulation Lab and Media Production Technology Center. In these areas you will find a unique blend of culture, language, art, science and technology that enhances the learning experience that we offer our students.

I'd also like to ask you to bear with us as you may see that some areas are in various stages of construction. The College recently was awarded \$19.1 million dollars in grant funding to complete five major capital projects to enhance various areas of the college campus, technology, and student services, and we are working diligently to complete these projects.

The planning committee has been hard at work to ensure that your experience at the conference is enjoyable, yet impactful. This conference will be one to remember, and my hope is that you enjoy the conference, our campus, and the City of Newark and surrounding areas.

Again, it is my pleasure to welcome the NCBAA-Northeast Region to Essex County College and please let any of us know if we can be of additional assistance while you are visiting with us.

Regards,
Dr. Gale E. Gibson
President
Essex County College



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, NCBAA NATIONAL

Greetings,

On behalf of the Board of the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA), I'd like to extend greetings and thank you for your support of NCBAA and a special thank you to President Gale Gibson, and the Essex County College faculty and staff for rolling out the "Green and Gold Carpet" to this year's conference attendees. Your hospitality and good will are much appreciated and a testament to the noteworthy reputation of this institution. I commend the NCBAA Northeast Region Conference Committee on the thought provoking slate of workshops and opportunities to network included in this year's Northeast Region Conference, **"Changing Faces of the Community College."** The Northeast Region Conference is recognized nationally as one of NCBAA's signature events. The programs and activities planned for this year's conference continue the legacy of ensuring attendees experience the "NCBAA ROI" - Return on Investment. We regularly gather data from our members and they consistently agree with the following: 1) NCBAA professional development activities are "time well spent," 2) information received is of benefit to members in their current work and in career advancement, and 3) participants have grown their professional networks and identified individuals capable, and willing, to serve in a mentoring/coaching capacity.

The past eight years have been an exciting time in the history of community colleges and substantive gains have been made under the Obama Administration. In this election year, we must remain ever vigilant, ensuring the gains made during this period are maintained and that we preserve the footholds that have been established. We must continue to advance our ability to use both qualitative, and, more importantly in some instances, quantitative data to articulate our effectiveness to legislators and philanthropic partners, key stakeholders in our students' success. Many of us have begun to leverage student analytic systems and technology to establish predictive models that suggest there indeed is a "science" to student success. The guided pathway approach to organizing the work of our institutions described in the seminal work, *Redesigning America's Community Colleges* (Bailey, Jaggars, and Jenkins, 2015), has taken hold at many of our institutions, providing a useful framework to organize curriculum and services to maximize limited resources – "time, talent, and treasure." The product of this work is effective student pipelines **FROM K – 12** institutions and robust pipelines from our colleges **TO** our baccalaureate and workforce partners. Many of these topics will be discussed at this year's conference.

I would like to once again commend the Northeast Region on what I'm sure will be one of our best conferences yet!

Collegial regards,

G. Duncan Harris, Ed. D.

President

National Conference on Black American Affairs



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, NCBAA, NE REGION

Welcome to the 2016 National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA) Northeast Region Conference, ***“Changing Faces of the American Community College.”*** I would like to extend a hearty welcome to our first time attendees, and welcome back to our returning participants. We are excited that you decided to participate in the Northeast Region 2016 conference. We are confident you will leave the conference enriched and energized to go back and do the work we know is so important for our students. During the conference, you will have an opportunity to participate in a variety of professional development and networking opportunities that will allow you to engage and interact in the discussion and dialogue necessary to make a difference in our institutions.

The NCBAA Northeast Region Spring Conferences focus on pedagogy, methods, and promising practices that lead to college completion. This year’s Conference theme, *Changing Faces of the American Community College*, aims to bring light to diversity and inclusion efforts at community colleges with respect to changing modes of delivery, technology, and learning styles. The conference will equip you with the tools to manage and lead the changing faces of the American Community College. In addition to the variety of professional development opportunities, we encourage you to network and fellowship with your Northeast region colleagues.

This year, we are excited to announce the NCBAA Northeast Region Community College Student Track. This one-day conference track will offer presentations and discussions pertinent to the Community College student experience. I would like to thank the student track presenters for sharing their expertise that will ultimately shape, enrich, and propel our students.

On behalf of the Northeast Region board of directors and conference planning committee, I would like to thank ***Essex County College***, its president, Dr. Gale Gibson, and our Essex conference liaison and champion, NCBAA board member, Dr. LadyLease White, for the hospitality and support extended to our organization in the planning and facilitation of this year’s conference. We appreciate your willingness to go above and beyond to make this conference a memorable event.

Again, welcome and enjoy the conference!

Rhonda Spells-Fentry, Ed.D.

President, Northeast Region
National Council on Black American Affairs

NCBAA-NE 2016 SPRING CONFERENCE

"Changing Faces of the American Community College"

March 17-18, 2016 • Essex County College / Zachary Yamba Building, Newark, NJ

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016

Time	Description	Location
10:00 am - 5:00 pm 10:00 am - 11:00 am	Registration Continental Breakfast	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Greetings and Welcome Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, NCBAA-NE President Dr. Gale Gibson, President, Essex County College, NY <i>"Lift Every Voice and Sing"</i> Essex County College Choir Directed by Prof. Richard Alston, Coord, Performing Arts Center/Music Dept.	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
11:30 am - 12:15 pm Concurrent Sessions	1. <i>Don't Get it Twisted: We are more than capable if you challenge us</i>	Training Inc., Rm. 15
	2. <i>Retention and Success 101: A brief look into current practices for student retention and success</i>	Training Inc. Rm. 22
	3. <i>Students Helping Students: How advising offices can use peer assistance to help students through the advising process</i>	Training Inc. Rm. 23
	4. <i>Keeping the Promise</i>	Training Inc. Rm. 25
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch and Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tonja Ringgold <i>"Innovative Approaches to Leading A Successful Accreditation Process"</i> Greetings from the Honorable Ras Baraka, Mayor, Newark, NJ	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
1:30 pm - 1:35 pm	NCBAA-NE 2016 Dissertation of the Year Award Presentation	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Concurrent Sessions	1. NCBAA-NE 2016 Dissertation of the Year Research Showcase <i>"Personal Connections and Career Reflections: Examining the Social Networks and Career Choices of African American Women Community College Leaders"</i>	Training Inc. Rm. 15
	2. <i>From Here to There: A proposed success model for first generation underrepresented students</i>	Training Inc. Rm. 22
	3. <i>Redefining Transfer Opportunities: Is California onto something?</i>	Training Inc. Rm. 23
	4. <i>College Media Reading Practices: Efficacy of critical media literacy pedagogy to improve developmental reading classroom results</i>	Training Inc. Rm. 25
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm Concurrent Sessions	Roundtable Discussions 1. <i>An Exploration of Best Practices for Supporting English Language Learners and Low-income Students in the Community College Settings</i> 2. <i>An Active and Nurturing Community-Building Teaching Philosophy for Student Retention and Academic Success</i> 3. <i>Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice: A Recipe for Successful Relationships between Black Practitioners and Black Students in Community College</i> 4. <i>The Speed of Trust: A Balancing Act in the Workplace!</i>	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
3:45 pm - 4:15 pm	Performance by Twin Poets. Al Mills & Nnamdi Chukwuocha	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	Interactive Spotlight Session: Dr. Michael Baston	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Networking Reception – Sponsored by Essex County College	The Art Gallery, 2nd Level
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	NCBAA-NE Region Board Meeting	President's Conference Room – 6th floor

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016

Time	Description	Location
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
9:00 am – 9:15 am	Welcome and Introductions Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, NCBAA-NE President Greetings from Honorable Donald M. Payne, Jr.	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Keynote Speaker: Mr. Terrell Blount <i>"Pathways to Postsecondary Education: Enhancing the Role of Community College in the Prison-to-School Pipeline"</i>	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Networking Break	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
10:30 am – 11:45 am	Federal Update: Conversation with David Baime <i>Moderator: Dr. Charlene Dukes</i>	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Networking Break	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Presidents' Panel and Lunch <i>Panelists: Dr. Quentin Bullock; Dr. Scott Evenbeck; Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith; Dr. Thomas Isekenegbe</i> <i>Moderator: Dr. Carolyn Grubbs-Williams</i>	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Closing Remarks	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
2:00 pm	Adjourn	

THE TWIN POETS – *Featured Entertainment*

Identical twin brothers **Nnamdi Chukwuocha** and **Al Mills**, the 'Twin Poets', were named the state's 17th poets laureate by Delaware Governor Markell. Their powerful spoken-word performances have won awards and landed them on national TV. Now the Wilmington brothers, known as the "Twin Poets," have been named the state's ambassadors for poetry. "The identical twins," 45, who both are social workers, are known for their rhythmically spoken poetry that details issues like gun violence, poverty, drugs and the criminal justice system. Their powerful spoken-word performances have won awards and landed them on national TV.

Together, their poetry has been featured on HBO's "Def Poetry Jam," BET's "Lyric Café," and NPR's "Poetic License." More recently, they were the subject of a documentary called, "Why I Write." The title is a reference to one of their favorite poems, which describes that they write poetry to change the social ills plaguing the inner city.

The brothers began writing poetry at about the age of 6 when their mother forced them to express their emotions with a pen and paper rather than yelling and screaming or fighting one another.

"My brother had to write me a letter explaining what I had done to make him mad," Chukwuocha said. "And I would write him back."

That practice soon turned to storytelling and then poetry. Writing rhymes and haiku changed after rap music became more popular. Mills said it inspired them to speak their poetry like the lyrics of their favorite songs. While they were offered chances to enter the rap world, the brothers said the scene is counter to their mission to be a positive change in the community.

They've both gone on to become married fathers – Chukwuocha has two sons, Mills has one son – living in Wilmington and giving back through numerous community organizations. Mills, who served in the Army in Iraq, is a therapist and co-founder of tutoring and mentoring programs. Chukwuocha, who also enlisted in the Army and was stationed in Alaska, serves on Wilmington City Council and the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission, among other groups.



NCBAA-NE 2016 SPRING CONFERENCE
 “Changing Faces of the American Community College”
 Essex County College / Zachary Yamba Building, Newark, NJ

COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT TRACK PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016

Time	Description	Location
10:00 am - 5:00 pm 10:00 am - 11:00 am	Registration Continental Breakfast	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Greetings and Welcome Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, NCBAA-NE President Dr. Gale Gibson, President, Essex County College “Lift Every Voice and Sing” Essex County College Choir Directed by Prof. Richard Alston, Coord., Performing Arts Center/Music Dept.	Mary Burch Theater
11:30 am - 12:15 pm	Student Plenary Speaker: Mr. Ronald E. McKnight <i>Networking: Building Impactful Relationships</i>	Dasher Student Center 1st Floor, Room 103A
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch and Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tonja Ringgold <i>“Innovative Approaches to Leading A Successful Accreditation Process”</i>	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
1:30 pm - 1:35 pm	NCBAA-NE 2016 Dissertation of the Year Award Presentation	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Concurrent Sessions	1. NCBAA-NE 2016 Dissertation of the Year Research Showcase <i>“Personal Connections and Career Reflections: Examining the Social Networks and Career Choices of African American Women Community College Leaders”</i>	Training Inc., Room 15
	Roundtable Discussions 2. <i>The HBCU Experience: Developing Leaders for America and the Global Community</i> 3. <i>Transfer Planning and Scholarships</i> 4. <i>It’s All Greek to Me: Examining Social Capital Among Historically Black Greek Lettered Organization Members</i>	Dasher Student Center 1st Floor, Room 103A
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm Concurrent Sessions	1. <i>Recognizing Stressors Affecting Urban Community College Students to Ensure Student Success</i>	Dasher Student Center 1st Floor, Room 103A
	2. <i>Pathway to Leadership Purpose</i>	Dasher Student Center Room 201
3:45 pm - 4:15 pm	Performance by Twin Poets <i>Al Mills & Nnamdi Chukwuocha</i>	4th Floor Multipurpose Room
4:30 pm - 5:15 pm	Student Plenary Speaker: Ms. Kani Bassey <i>Usage of Social Media: Building Your Personal Brand</i>	Dasher Student Center 1st Floor, Room 103A
5:15 pm - 5:30 pm	Closing Remarks	Dasher Student Center 1st Floor, Room 103A
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Networking Reception <i>Sponsored by Essex County College</i>	The Art Gallery, 2nd Level

NCBAA/NE REGION

Annual Regional Conference

DAY 1 – THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Greetings & Welcome** (Mary Burch Theater)

Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, President, NCBA Northeast Region

Dr. Gale E. Gibson, President, Essex County College, NJ

Song : *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Essex College Choir – Prof. Richard Alton, Coordinator Performing Arts Center/Music Director

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

1. "Don't Get it Twisted! We Are More Than Capable if You Challenge Us "

(Training Inc., Rm. 15)

At our institutions, the master narrative with respect to student performance largely focuses on their insufficiencies. In this presentation, we will reflect on the importance of using critical race theories, engaged and responsive andragogies at community colleges that largely serve minoritized students with predominately white professoriates. Our work disrupts deficit-centered theories of underperformance and resists the erasure of non-white epistemologies in the teaching of Social Psychology and Drugs, Society, and Behavior. Dr. Guishard will discuss a cultural genogram and participatory survey project students complete in her Social Psychology (SP) class. Justin will discuss a drugs education autobiography and editorial assignment his students complete in which they evaluate their personal, formal, and media education about psychoactive substances prior to and after enrollment in the class.

Moderator: Dr. Alicia B. Harvey Smith, President, Rivery Valley CC, NH

Presenters: Dr. Monique Guishard, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Bronx Community College, NY

Professor Justin Brown, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences, LaGuardia Community College, NY

2. "Retention and Success 101: A Brief Look into Current Practices for Student Retention and Success" (Training Inc., Rm. 22)

Participants will have an opportunity to learn about practices encouraging student success that are currently implemented at various community colleges, specifically to reach students of color and encourage degree/program completion. These strategies will include the Center for Male Engagement, First Year Experience, and Subiendo el Nivel. Each of these approaches will be explained, while highlighting their respective institution's success with implementation.

Moderator: Dr. Carolyn H. Anderson, Professor, Morgan State University, MD

Presenter: Tamara Wilkerson, Doctoral Candidate, Morgan State University, MD

3. "Students Helping Students: How advising offices can use peer assistance to help students through the advising process" (Training Inc., Rm. 23)

Are you looking for a way to further engage and support your students? For institutions that utilize professional and faculty advising models, peer assistance can complement the services and support provided by advisors as another layer of support to students. The session will discuss the value of a peer assistance program at your institution. Some of the factors that will be addressed include: time and financial costs, recruitment, training, supervision strategies, and creative strategies to help peer assistants engage students in order to support retention efforts and enhance the sense of community within your program, college, or institution. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and share their own success with peer assistance.

Moderator: Dr. Michelle H. Bondima, Coordinator, Morgan State University Community College Leadership Doctorate Program, MD

Presenter: Candice Caldwell, Program Manager/Advisor, Prince George's Community College, MD



DR. SPELLS-FENTRY



DR. GIBSON



MS. GUISHARD



MR. BROWN



MS. WILKERSON



MS. CALDWELL

4. "Keeping the Promise" (Training Inc., Rm. 25)

This is an interactive presentation that will display specialized programs and services for changing faces in the community colleges. We will present three programs that service a special population of students that need the tools and support to meet their educational goals: Cope Program, Graduation Success Initiative, and Single Stop.

Moderator: Ms. Mary Coleman, V.P. Administration and Finance, Guttman Community College, NY

Presenters: Barbara Martin, Director, CUNY COPE Program

DeDra Polite, Director of Single Stop USA Services, Bronx Community College, NY

Denise Comara, Project Coordinator, Bronx Community College, NY



MS. MARTIN



MS. POLITE



MS. COMARA

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch Keynote:** Dr. Tonja L. Ringgold, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, Baltimore City Community College, MD
(4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

"Innovative Approaches to Leading A Successful Accreditation Process"

This session will discuss innovative approaches to involving the entire college community in the accreditation process as well as how to develop sustainable practices for maintaining positive accreditation and business processes

Moderator: Dr. Regan Hicks-Goldstein, Dean, Student Affairs, Delaware Technical & Community College, DE



DR. RINGGOLD

1:30 p.m. – 1:35 p.m. **NCBAA-NE 2015 Dissertation of the Year Award Presentation**
(4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Presentation: Dr. T. Porter Brannon, 2015 Dissertation of the Year Recipient, Assistant Dean, Advising, Records & Registration, LaGuardia Community College, NY

Recipient: Dr. Deborah Peoples, CCLDP, Morgan State University, MD



DR. BRANNON

1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

1. NCBAA-NE Dissertation of the Year Research Showcase:

"Personal Connections and Career Reflections: Examining the Social Networks and Career Choices of African American Women Community College Leaders" (Training Inc. Rm. 15)

A compelling examination of the strengths and strategies African American women employ during the pursuit of leadership. While there are many studies that focus on the barriers and challenges faced by African American women in higher education, this study highlights that given the opportunity, they can be as successful as their white male counterparts. Contrary to what is reported in the literature about the networking behaviors and characteristics of women and people of color, the experiences shared by the study participants demonstrates their network creation strategies are effective and often result in the attainment of leadership position.

Moderator: Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, Interim VP for Technology, Prince George's Community College, MD

Presenter: Dr. Deborah Peoples, CCLDP, Morgan State University, MD



DR. PEOPLES

2. "From Here to There: A Proposed Success Model for First Generation Underrepresented Students" (Training Inc. Rm. 22)

This session will present a proposed student success model for first generation Underrepresented students. The "H2T" or the "Here 2 There" model was designed based on pre-college research and Dr. Butler's current and past research. The model uses a rating system of 'presence or absence' of an activity and how the level of the activity influenced student success. Dr. Butler presents the model with a short survey to participants that they will keep. The survey will be a "quick" self-study of programming activity at their institutions. Participants will have concrete evidence of methods that may be scalable to a high school pre-college program or activities in a first year experience program. An equally important outcome is for participants to be reminded about the importance of contributing to or continuing to support a Culture of Evidence and Inquiry at their institutions. Manchester Community College, CT

Moderator: Ms. Endia DeCordova, Dean, Institutional Advancement, Manchester Community College, CT

Presenter: Dr. Fay M Butler, Executive Administrator Enrollment, LaGuardia Community College, NY



DR. BUTLER

3. "Redefining Transfer Opportunities: Is California onto something?" (Training Inc. Rm. 23)

In 2015, the state of California community college system (CCCCO) signed articulation agreements with nine Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). According to the Transfer Articulation and Agreement section of the CCCCCO website, that offers specific information to transferring community college students about transfer pathways to HBCUs, the decision was made based on the "excellent academic track record of HBCUs." Join this discussion as we review California's decision to create a framework for informing students about HBCUs, and for using existing structures to develop transfer pathways for students who may be interested in these institutions. We will also consider implications for students attending community colleges in the Northeastern region, where HBCUs are underrepresented and/or non-existent.

Moderator: Kellie Bryd-Danso, Director, Student Engagement & Career Development, Gateway CC, CT

Presenter: Theresa L. C. Hammonds, Student Success Coach, Bronx Community College, NY



MS. HAMMONDS

4. "College Media|Reading Practices: Critical Media Literacy Pedagogy to Improve Developmental Reading Classroom Results" (Training Inc. Rm. 25)

In many urban community colleges, a disproportionate number of Latino/a and African Diasporic students are placed into developmental reading courses, often negatively affecting their college careers. This session examines youth media as a strategy that provides for unique learning opportunities that straddle the boundaries of reading skills and media engagement. It underscores the data points, demonstrating the efficacy of critical youth media practice as an effective developmental reading pedagogy. Their presentation highlights that critical youth media practice improves classroom motivation, lowers classroom turnover, and yields higher test scores compared to the classes taught without this method. The results call for more innovative ways to deploy critical youth media practice in order to reach Latino/a and African Diasporic Communities enrolled in college developmental reading courses.

Moderator: Dr. Claudia Schrader, VP Academic Affairs and Provost, Bronx Community College, NY

Presenters: Dr. Edward Lehner, Assistant Professor, Bronx Community College, NY

Dr. Tonya Johnson, Assistant Professor, Bronx Community College, NY



DR. LEHNER



DR. JOHNSON

2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Roundtable Discussions (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Roundtable #1 Topic: "An Exploration of Best Practices for Supporting English Language Learners and Low-income Students in the Community College Settings"

Presenters will discuss current suggested models used to support English language Learners, and examine these "best practices" approaches that appear to work. They will address the practice of instruction that examines how faculty and instructors address culturally responsive teaching in their respective classrooms.

Presenters: Charles Edwards, Assistant Professor, Brooklyn College, NY

Kaemanje Thomas, Assistant Professor, Bronx Community College, NY



MR. EDWARDS

Roundtable #2 Topic: "An Active and Nurturing Community-Building Teaching Philosophy for Student Retention and Academic Success"

This presentation will focus on a nurturing and active community-building philosophy explored through health and fitness activities. I feel when students are respected and connected, they will continue college matriculation and achieve academic success. Key tools for creating this safe environment in the classroom will be shared. We utilize activities that encourage trust, engage participation and examine learning. These activities and teaching strategies help build student confidence and create collaborative opportunities to leverage one another's skills.

Presenter: Kelvin Cooper, Assistant, Professor of Health, Bronx Community College, NY



MR. THOMAS

Roundtable #3 Topic: "Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice: A Recipe for Successful Relationships between Black Practitioners and Black Students in Community College"

This Roundtable discussion will be based upon findings from a study that examined the ways in which Black practitioners and students at community colleges define success, and the role of their relationships with each other, in achieving such success. This study also examined whether institutions provide students and practitioners with resources that promote the success of Black students. Participants in this Roundtable discussion will gain a deeper understanding about the variation in definitions and perceptions of success, and why creating and maintaining relationships with Black practitioners is an integral part of Black students' college experience. Participants will also be provided with strategies to sustain a student-centered culture that centralizes both academic and personal resources. The ways in which Black community college students achieve success will also be discussed.

Presenter: Dr. Alexis McLean, Lecturer/Counselor, Medgar Evers College,



MR. COOPER



DR. McLEAN

Roundtable #4 Topic: "The Speed of Trust:A Balancing Act in the Workplace!"

Emerging trends show that trust is the challenge that the workplace faces most today. What people do not realize is that we behave ourselves out of trust and behave ourselves back into trust with others. What are the core values that we need rebuild trust with others in the workplace. Join the discussion about assessing your behavior and looking at what is needed to develop behavior that will maintain trust and relationships. We will discuss the use of reflection as a tool to maintain trust with others. Come and join us for a robust Roundtable conversation concerning TRUST!.

Presenter: Dr. Judith A. Stang, Assistant Dean/Campus Director, Springfield College, School of Professional & Continuing Studies, Wilmington, DE



DR. STANG

3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Performance by The Twin Poets

Al Mills & Nnamdi Chukwuocha



THE TWIN POETS

4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Interactive Spotlight Session: "Maintaining Momentum – New Tools to Address New Challenges in Student Success" (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

The American Community College is changing. Words like "access" and "affordability" often suggest opportunities that don't fully address the real cost of higher education for low income students – costs which greatly exceed tuition. While traditional financial aid sources, such as Pell grants, student loans, state financial aid programs and scholarships are important, a holistic student support infrastructure is critical for the persistence and completion of this growing segment attending America's colleges and universities. For some, their non-academic lives are status quo. Many students who are used to life circumstances that are much different from being in college may be driven away from enrollment because it represents a painful and costly break from the status quo.

This session will address some of the student engagement challenges faced by today's community colleges and will focus on the importance of creating a calibrated set of engagement activities, academic, financial and social, that can help students and the institutions that serve them maintain momentum.

Moderator: Dr. Cheryl M. Smith, NCBA/NE Board Member

Presenter/Facilitator: Dr. Michael Baston, Vice President, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, LaGuardia Community College, NY



DR. BASTON

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Networking Reception – Sponsored by Essex County College
(The Art Gallery, 2nd Level)

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. NCBA/NE Board Meeting – (President's Conference Room – 6th floor)



DAY 2 – FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Registration/Continental Breakfast** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. **Welcome & Introductions** (Mary Burch Theater)

Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, Interim VP, Technology & CI, Prince George's Community College, MD,
President, NCBAA Northeast Region



DR. SPELLS-FENTRY

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Keynote Speaker** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

*"Pathways to Postsecondary Education: Enhancing the Role of Community College in the
Prison-to-School Pipeline"*

Moderator: Dr. Ronald Milon, Associate VP Academic Affairs, Fashion Institute of Technology, NY
Presenter: Terrell Blount, Program Associate, Vera Institute of Justice, NJ



MR. BLOUNT

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Networking Break** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **"Federal Update: Conversation with David Baime"**
(4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Moderator: Dr. Charlene Dukes, President, Prince George's Community College, MD
Presenter: Mr. David Baime, Senior Vice President, Government Relations and Research, American
Association of Community Colleges, DC



DR. DUKES

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Networking Break** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Presidents' Panel and Lunch** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Changing Faces of Community Colleges: "The Presidents' Perspective"

Moderator: Dr. Carolyn G. Williams, President Emeritus, Bronx Community College, NY

Panel Members:

Dr. Quentin Bullock, Community College of Allegheny County, PA

Dr. Scott Evenbeck, Guttman Community College, NY

Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith, River Valley Community College, NH

Dr. Thomas Isekenegebe, Bronx Community College, NY



DR. BAIME

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Closing Remarks** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, President, NCBAA Northeast Region

Gift Drawings

Dr. Judy Stang, Assistant Dean & Campus Director, Springfield College, DE

Dr. Gwendolyn W. Sanders, President Advisory Board, Springfield College, DE



DR. WILLIAMS

2:00 p.m. **Adjourn**



DR. EVENBECK



DR. BULLOCK



DR. HARVEY-SMITH



DR. ISEKENEGBE



NCBAA/NE REGION Annual Regional Conference Community College Student Session Information THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Greetings & Welcome** (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Dr. Rhonda Spells-Fentry, President, NCBAA Northeast Region

Dr. Gale E. Gibson, President, Essex County College, NJ

Song : *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Essex College Choir – Prof. Richard Alton, Coordinator Performing Arts Center/Music Director



DR. SPELLS-FENTRY

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Student Plenary Speaker: Mr. Ronald E. McKnight**

Concurrent Sessions

“Networking: Building Impactful Relationships” (Dasher Student Center, Room 103A)

“Networking: Building Impactful Relationships” explores proven techniques for college students on how to build lasting and powerful relationships that will assist them in their career goals. This presentation is interactive and covers appearance, motivation, conversations starters, the “30 Second Brand Commercial,” exploring and recognizing business opportunities, business etiquette, and more.

Moderator: Dr. Cheryl M. Smith, NCBAA-NE Board of Directors, NY

Presenter: Ronald E. McKnight, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Bergen Community College, NJ



DR. GIBSON



MR. MCKNIGHT

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch Keynote: Dr. Tonja L. Ringgold**, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, Baltimore City Community College, MD
(4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

“Innovative Approaches to Leading A Successful Accreditation Process”

This session will discuss innovative approaches to involving the entire college community in the accreditation process as well as how to develop sustainable practices for maintaining positive accreditation and business processes.

Moderator: Dr. Regan Hicks-Goldstein, Dean, Student Affairs, Delaware Tech C.C., DE



DR. RINGGOLD

1:30 p.m. – 1:35 p.m. **NCBAA-NE 2015 Dissertation of the Year Award Presentation**
(4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Presentation: Dr. T. Porter Brannon, Assistant Dean, Advising, Records & Registration, LaGuardia Community College, NY

Recipient: Dr. Deborah Peoples, CCLDP, Morgan State University, MD

1:45 – 2:30 p.m. **Roundtable Sessions** (Training Inc., Room 15)

Roundtable #1. NCBAA-NE Dissertation of the Year Research Showcase:

“Personal Connections and Career Reflections: Examining the Social Networks and Career Choices of African American Women Community College Leaders” (Room 2115)

A compelling examination of the strengths and strategies African American women employ during the pursuit of leadership. While there are many studies that focus on the barriers and challenges faced by African American women in higher education, this study highlights that given the opportunity, they can be as successful as their white male counterparts. Contrary to what is reported in the literature about the networking behaviors and characteristics of women and people of color, the experiences shared by the study participants demonstrates their network creation strategies are effective and often result in the attainment of leadership position.

Presenter: Dr. Deborah Peoples, CCLDP, Morgan State University, MD



DR. BRANNON



DR. PEOPLES

Roundtable #2. "The HBCU Experience: Developing Leaders for America and the Global Community" (Dasher Student Center – 1st Floor, Room 103A)

This session will cover the following topics: Advantages of attending an HBCU, disadvantages of attending an HBCU, HBCU's contribution to one's identity and purpose, life after HBCU and the importance of the HBCU network.

Presenter: Dr. Damien Robinson, ACES Academic Coach, Montgomery College,



DR. ROBINSON

Roundtable #3. "Transfer Planning and Scholarships"

(Dasher Student Center – 1st Floor, Room 103A)

Community college students should begin transfer planning early to ensure that degree program and curriculum are congruent with future career or educational plans. Scholarships are a vital part of transfer planning and should also be addressed early because the cost of higher education is exorbitant and continues to rise. The process of researching scholarships and writing essays can be straightforward. This session will provide students with information on preparing for and researching scholarships as well as essay writing.

Presenter: Mr. Edwin Roman, Academic and Transfer Resources Coordinator, Bronx Community College, NY



MR. ROMAN

Roundtable #4. "It's All Greek to Me: Examining Social Capital Among Historically Black Greek Lettered Organization Members" (Dasher Student Center – 1st Floor, Room 103A)

The significance of Black Greek-lettered Organizations (BGOs) on college campuses is a concern. Nonetheless, membership provides student involvement and leadership skill development for African Americans in college and beyond. Using Pierre Bourdieu's theory of social capital, this presentation highlights the need for and creates the awareness of the "Divine 9" when higher education representatives are preparing community college students for senior colleges. During the session, the facilitators will present research findings, provide practical strategies and interact with BGO representatives. We will actively engage panelists and participants in a conversation on how membership impacts their development in college and beyond.

Presenter: Dr. Ted N. Ingram, Associate Professor, Bronx Community College, NY



DR. INGRAM

2:45 – 3:40 p.m. Student Concurrent Sessions

1. "Recognizing Stressors Affecting Urban Community College Students to Ensure Student Success" (Dasher Student Center – 1st Floor, Room 103A)

This workshop will introduce attendees to some practical strategies designed to improve the capacity of students to manage the stress associated with the urban community college experience. The focus will be on offering proactive approaches, to empower students in developing effective social and peer supports, self-awareness of social conditions and time managed study skills, within the context of the individual student experience, or in support of one another, as members of a college community. Many students that attend a community college, may find themselves balancing the responsibilities of work and school, supporting their families, returning to college after a long layoff, or enrolling in college for the first time, but yet finding themselves inadequately prepared. Both the cumulative and individual effects of these factors, if left unattended, can lead to increased levels of stress, resulting in poor student outcomes, particularly for the urban community college student that may be living under marginalized and vulnerable social conditions.

Moderator: Dr. Regan Hicks-Goldstein, Dean, Student Affairs, Delaware Technical & Community College, DE

Presenter: Gregory Cobb, Assistant Professor, Bronx Community College, NY



MR. COBB

2. "Pathway to Leadership Purpose" (Dasher Student Center, Room 201)

Indecision and conflict can stunt the motivation needed to identify and follow-through with aspirations. Averting this dilemma is possible by becoming aware of one's "Leadership-Purpose." Knowing our Leadership-Purpose is like having a compass or a GPS that can drive lucid decision-making. Also, research shows a relationship between leading a purposeful life and psychological benefits in young adults. Participants in this session will begin to align their actions with their values and identify purposes for which to take leadership.

Moderator: Dr. Calvin E. Woodland, Faculty, Morgan State University & Springfield College, DE

Presenter: Manny Lopez, Associate Director of Success & Leadership, CUNY/Guttman Community College, NY



MR. LOPEZ



THE TWIN POETS

3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Performance by The Twin Poets (4th Floor Multipurpose Room)

Al Mills & Nnamdi Chukwuocha

4:15 – 5:00 p.m. **Student Plenary Speaker: Ms. Kani Bassey**
“Usage of Social Media: Building Your Personal Brand”

(Dasher Student Center – 1nd Floor, Room 103A)

A discussion on ways to manage your online presence, and build a professional image with sites such as LinkedIn and Twitter, while networking in today's digital age. Attendees will learn how to use social media to build their personal brand, attract employers and also become thought leaders in their respective fields.

Moderator: Mr. David Taylor, Dean, Administration and Finance, Bronx Community College, NY

Presenter: Ms. Kani Bassey, Director of Marketing and Digital Media, Montgomery College, MD

5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. **Closing Remarks** (Dasher Student Center – 1nd Floor, Room 103A)

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **Networking Reception** – Sponsored by Essex County College, NJ
 (The Art Gallery, 2nd Level)



MR. TAYLOR



MS. BASSEY

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PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Mr. David Baime serves as senior vice president for government relations and research for the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). In this role, he directs the national advocacy efforts for the nation's close to 1,200 community colleges and their students. Prior to joining AACC, he served as director of education funding for the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. He has also worked as assistant director of government relations for the Association of American Medical Colleges. Baime has made a number of radio, television, and Web appearances, including on CNN, MSNBC, C-SPAN, and National Public Radio, and is frequently quoted in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Inside Higher Ed*, and other education publications. Baime holds a bachelor's degree from Haverford College and a master's degree in economics from the London School of Economics.



Dr. Michael A. Baston serves as Vice President, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, LaGuardia Community College (NY). Dr. Baston, a highly respected educator and leader in student affairs for more than 20 years, has served in various capacities in higher education, including residence hall campus minister, college legal counsel, adjunct faculty member, dean of students and vice president. He also serves as the Board Chair of the LaGuardia College Association, Inc.; Board Chair of the LaGuardia Childcare Corporation; and Secretary of LaGuardia Auxiliary Enterprises. Dr. Baston holds an undergraduate degree from Iona College, a Juris Doctorate degree from Brooklyn Law School and a doctorate in Education in Executive Leadership from St. John Fisher College. His research areas include community college student persistence, student success, and student affairs administration.



Terrell A. Blount is a motivational speaker, mentor, and activist for both prison reform and civil rights. His main topics of discussion are post-secondary education for currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, race and class, police brutality, as well as his own experiences within the criminal justice system. Upon completion of a 6 year prison sentence in 2009, Terrell enrolled in Rutgers University-New Brunswick, graduating with a dual degree in Communication and Africana Studies in 2013. He is currently a Program Associate for the Vera Institute of Justice, working on The Second Chance Pilot Program, which aims to support postsecondary education programs for people in prison by developing and strengthening college-corrections partnerships. The Newark native is also a student of SPAA at Rutgers-Newark campus, studying for his Masters in Public Administration.



Dr. Towuanna Porter Brannon is a higher education professional with more than 15 years of experience in key leadership roles at public, private and proprietary institutions. Dr. Brannon currently serves as the Assistant Dean for Advising, Records and Registration at LaGuardia Community College within CUNY. She provides leadership and vision to eight departments including the Registrar's Office, Center for Career and Professional Development, International Student Services, Transfer Services, Office of Student with Disabilities, Student Advising Services, and CUNY signature retention programs including College Discovery, Accelerated Studies in Associate Programs (ASAP), and College Opportunity to Prepare for Employment (COPE).



Professor Justin Brown is an assistant professor at LaGuardia Community College in Health Sciences where he teaches courses in public health. Professor Brown's areas of expertise are in program development and intervention evaluation. His collaborative research focuses on health inequities among LGBT, ethnic minority, and youth populations through asset-based approaches. Brown is also Deputy Director of the CUNY Institute for Health Equity (CIHE) and a newly appointed board member of the Manhattan-Staten Island Area Health Education Center (MSI-AHEC).



Dr. Fay M Butler has spent the past twenty-eight years working in higher education, twenty-three of which have been in various leadership and management positions at The City University of New York. Dr. Butler has enjoyed rich rewarding diverse experiences at the University, working in Enrollment Management and Student Development within Student Affairs. Dr. Butler is a recipient of many awards: Evaluator for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Board Member- All Saints Bible College and Advisory Board-Intervarsity Advocacy Council at Black Scholars and Professionals. Dr. Butler has presented numerous papers and workshops for NYSACAC, NACAC, the College Board, Hobart and William Smith Colleges and CUNY. Dr. Butler is an Author, Hostess of Top of the Morning Radio Show and a Chief Social Media Strategist for faith based organizations.



Candice Caldwell is the Program Manager of the Academic Peer Assistant Program and academic advisor at Prince George's Community College. Candice has over 20 years of experience in higher education with demonstrated expertise in student development, transfer preparation, program development, training, mentorship and peer advising. Candice received her BA in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Cultural Studies from Lesley University, a Master's in Counseling with a concentration in Student Development in Higher Education from Trinity University (DC). Candice is pursuing her doctoral studies in the Community College Doctoral Leadership Program at Morgan State University.



Denise Comara, is Project Coordinator of the CUNY Cope Graduation Success Initiative at Bronx Community College. She is responsible for the coordination and integration of services for students. Comara monitors and evaluates the services through assessment, planning and implementation. She provides academic advisement/registration and acts as student advocate /HRA Liaison. Denise serves as faculty advisor for the Cope Club which enhances the quality of academic success for students through and empowerment. Ms. Comara selects and recommends services and information for both current and future students..



Kelvin Cooper was born in the Bahamas and he has a Master's Degree in Dance Education from New York University. He is an Assistant Professor at Bronx Community College and teaches Afro-Caribbean dance at NYU. Cooper is a teaching artist at Alvin Ailey. He completed a study abroad program in Uganda as a teacher's assistant for NYU. He was a professional development trainer for a partnership program with New Orleans Ballet at Tulane University. Kelvin has performed at the Apollo Theater, BAM, Joyce Theater, and Symphony Space. Cooper was a featured dancer for the band "Arrested Development" at Madison Square Garden, and has performed in Samson and Delilah at the Metropolitan House. He teaches and directs an intercultural dance workshop performance in the Bahamas. He is particularly interested in empowering and building communities through thematic dance and fitness works locally and internationally.



Dr. Charlene M. Dukes is the eighth and first female president of Prince George's Community College (PGCC). She holds membership in a variety of professional organizations, including the boards of directors of the American Association of Community Colleges; the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U); the Community College Advisory Panel of the College Board; the Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP); the President's Round Table; and the National Council on Black American Affairs. Dr. Dukes is a member of the board of directors of the Prince George's County Chamber of Commerce, the Business Round Table, Doctors' Community Hospital, College Summit of the National Capital Region, and Hillside-Works Scholarship Connection. She is on the board of directors of the Harlem Renaissance Foundation and the Community Foundation of the National Capital Area. Dr. Dukes is a lifetime member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a member of the Prince George's County (MD) Chapter of the Links, Inc., and a member of the "Go On Girl" National Book Club. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education with an English concentration from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master's and doctorate in Administrative and Policy Studies from the University of Pittsburgh.



Charles C. Edwards is a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC) and Nationally Certified School Counselor (NCSC). Edwards has over 15 years of experience working as a teacher, a school counselor, and counselor educator. He is presently assistant professor of School Counseling at Brooklyn College. In the last 15 years, he has worked as an educator and counselor in schools and clinics across New York City. His research focuses on the effectiveness of professional school counselors in supporting students' academic, personal, social and career development within urban school systems and communities.



Dr. Monique A. Guishard is a participatory action researcher, de-colonial ethicist, and community college professor. Monique is an Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Department of Social Sciences at her alma mater, Bronx Community College. Guishard is a practitioner of humanizing critical engaged andragogy. Her approach to teaching aspires to co-nurture a learning environment in which students from different backgrounds and perspectives feel safe, respected, edified, and invested in learning. Dr. Guishard is highly skilled at using interactive platforms (Prezi, digital stories, E-portfolios, &/or podcasting in her lectures. Monique is a graduate of the Critical Social-Personality Psychology doctoral program at the CUNY Graduate Center and a founding member of the Public Science Project.



Theresa L. C. Hammonds is a former entrepreneur who likes to say that she came to Bronx Community College to help her daughter enroll and never left. She has earned undergraduate degrees in both Business and Public Administration, as well as a graduate degree in Urban Policy and Public Administration all from the City University of New York system. Ms. Hammonds is a doctoral candidate in Education Leadership at Rowan University where she is researching the transfer needs of Black and African American community college STEM majors.



Tonya Johnson is an Assistant Professor at Bronx Community College, Bronx, NY in the Education and Reading Department. Johnson began her career in education as a substitute teacher in the New York City Department of Education. After teaching fifth grade, Johnson became the teacher of technology for six years and developed the school's technology curriculum. She served as school principal at Merrick Academy Charter School, the first charter school in Queens, NY. In both roles, teacher and leadership, she understands the importance of building strong networks for children and educators and fostering community partnerships. She holds a doctorate in Teacher Leadership and Administration, Walden University, MS in Supervision and Administration, MS in Childhood Education, BS Business Computer Information Systems, and STEM Certification, New York Institute of Technology.



Dr. Edward Lehner is an Assistant Professor in the Bronx Community College's (BCC) Department of Education and Reading. He is a teacher/researcher who has taught at every level, including Universal Pre-Kindergarten, during his career in New York City. Beyond his teaching, Lehner is a firm believer in the power of student engaged research that yields insights that can transform classroom teaching and learning practices. Lehner believes that cogenerative research, the process of engaging all participants/students as researchers, is at the heart of classroom innovation. Lehner has inaugurated a robust research agenda at BCC that focuses on literacy development and future teacher preparation.



Barbara Martin is the Project Director of the C.O.P.E. and GSI Programs at Bronx Community College. Barbara earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from North Carolina A&T State University and her Master's in Social Work from Clark Atlanta University. She received certifications from Columbia University for Postgraduate studies in Clinical Aspects of Services to Children, and a certificate in Staff Supervision Procedures. She serves on the Advisory Board of the Family Friends Program at Harlem Hospital Center, a member of Metro Manhattan Chapter of Link, Inc. and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.



Dr. Alexis McLean is an educator and speaker currently serving as a Lecturer and Counselor in Department of Special Programs/Percy E. Sutton SEEK Program at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York (CUNY). She provides SEEK students with academic and personal counseling, teaches various counseling courses, helping SEEK students acquire the psychosocial skills needed to succeed while in college and upon graduation. Her research focuses on the role of institutional agents at colleges and universities, and race and ethnicity in higher education, particularly as they relate to black students' undergraduate experience(s). Dr. McLean holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Pennsylvania State University, a Master of Arts in Mental Health and Wellness from New York University, and a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration from New York University.



Dr. Deborah Peoples has over 10 years of community college leader experience. During her tenure as an administrator, she led institutional efforts in continuing education. Dr. Peoples has extensive experience in the public, private and non-profit sectors leading workforce development initiatives, grant development and management, student advisement, curriculum design and development, marketing, course evaluation, faculty assessment, enrollment management, and staff development. Dr. Peoples holds a B.A. from St. Mary's College of Maryland, an MA from University of Maryland-Baltimore County, and an Ed.D. from Morgan State University. Dr. Peoples currently leads efforts to develop global leadership competencies for mid- to senior-level executives in a Fortune 500 company.



DeDra Polite is the Director of Single Stop USA services at Bronx Community College. She is responsible for the delivery of social services for students enrolled at Bronx. Polite has developed and maintained campus wide and community based relationships and collaborations which support a student-centered campus experience. She works with internal and external stakeholders to plan and implement outreach activities and workshops. Polite is currently working on her Ph.D. in Human Services in family studies and strategies. Her passion and mission in life is to be "the voice to the voiceless, a defender for the defenseless, and a vehicle for change."



Dr. Tonja L. Ringgold is Vice President for Academic Affairs and Interim Vice President for Student Affairs at Baltimore City Community College. Dr. Ringgold brings a wealth of skills and accomplishments which span almost 20 years in higher education. During her tenure, she has served as Assistant Secretary at the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MEHC), Campus Dean at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC), and Department Chair, Executive Director of Student Development, Honors Program Director, and Professor of Psychology at Baltimore City Community College (BCCC). She also served as part-time faculty in Morgan State University's Community College Leadership Doctoral Program. Dr. Ringgold is committed to community service, volunteerism, and mentorship.



Dr. Judith A. Stang, serves as the Assistant Dean and Campus Director of Springfield College School of Human Services, Wilmington Campus. Dr. Stang has over 35 years of progressive and diversified experience in forging partnerships between academic institutions of higher education and business and their service communities. As an education training consultant she developed professional development workshops for mid-level corporate and nonprofit leaders. Dr. Stang has served as faculty, department chairperson, curriculum developer and monitor of higher education programs in several institutions of higher education, Neumann College, Eastern College, Wilmington University and the Center for Urban Theological Studies. She earned a doctorate in Public Administration from Nova South Eastern University, a B.A. and M.A. from Slippery Rock University in Sociology/Anthropology & Social Welfare Systems and an A.A. in Secondary Education from Butler County Community College, PA.



The Twin Poets are a Delaware-based duo that marries art, entertainment, education and community service like no other. Their family history of community activism, their creative flair, passion for education and the beauty of their "spoken word" lyricism, allows them to be truly effective, innovative and inspirational



Kaemanje S. Thomas is an author, poet, and educator. He has a combined experience of working for more than 13 years in elementary and higher education. He is currently an assistant professor of Education and Reading at Bronx Community College. Dr. Thomas' research and publications focus on supporting low-income students and ESL learners in postsecondary education. His research focuses on literacy development in supporting English Language Learners, the academic preparation of low-income, first-generation populations, 21st Century college readiness strategies, and the preparation of rural and urban students for the knowledge-capital economies.



Tamara Wilkerson is currently a doctoral candidate at Morgan State University, studying Community College Leadership. She teaches Spanish in Charlottesville, VA, where she also works with the college readiness program for K-12 students. Tamara's research interests include minority student retention and degree completion at the community college level.



Dr. Carolyn Grubbs Williams served as the fourth president of Bronx Community College, City University of New York. Prior to this presidency, Dr. Williams served as the President of Los Angeles Southwest College. Prior to her presidencies, Dr. Williams served as Dean of Student Affairs at Highland Park Community College in Detroit, then as Vice Provost for Academic and Student Affairs, and as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Wayne County Community College in Detroit. Dr. Williams has a BS in Sociology; MA in Urban Planning and Ph.D. in Higher Education from Wayne State University Under her leadership, Bronx Community College, developed large scale capacity-building projects in higher education in South Africa. Dr. Williams served on a number of national boards including the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC) where she served as Chair. She is currently a member of the Commission on Global Education, the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA), the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), including its Executive Committee, the Advisory Board of the Community College Research Center, Columbia University, and Board for the Institute of Community College Development (ICCD).

PRESIDENTS' BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Quentin Bullock is President of the Community College of Allegheny County in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is a consummate professional, an experienced educator, an exemplary community leader, a mentor, and a positive role model for students and aspiring leaders, with an extensive, diverse professional background in higher education. His professional career has advanced from an urban high school science teacher, a director for STEM enrichment programs, Executive Dean for an urban campus, Provost for a cutting edge leading institution, and former President of Schenectady County Community College. Bullock is a proven and results-oriented community college president that is recognized for his exemplary leadership and being an ambassador for the students and communities he serves. Bullock earned a bachelor and a master degree from Prairie View A&M University, a Doctor of Dental Surgery from the University of Texas Health Science Center. His leadership training includes the Community College Executive Leadership Institute, AACC Future Leaders Program, the Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership, the Wharton/IRHE Program in Higher Education, and the Harvard Seminar for New Presidents.



Dr. Scott Evenbeck is Guttman Community College's Founding President. Dr. Evenbeck served as professor of psychology and founding dean of University College at Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis. He joined the psychology faculty there after completing his Masters and Doctorate in Social Psychology at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Psychology at Indiana University at Bloomington. Scott has long been involved in designing, implementing and assessing programs for students in their first years of university study. Dr. Evenbeck was a task force advisor for the Foundations of Excellence in the First College Year and a board member of the American Conference of Academic Deans. He served on the advisory board for the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition. The National Learning Community conference recognized him with the lifetime achievement award. He has been on accreditation teams for three regional associations, focusing on general education, assessment and programs for entering students.



Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith is the President of River Valley Community College in the New Hampshire. Dr. Harvey Smith earned a PhD, from the University of Maryland, College Park in Counseling and Personnel Services, a Master of Science in Guidance & Counseling from John Hopkins University, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Morgan State University. She has served as the Vice-President of Student Affairs at Baltimore City Community College, and prior to that as Dean of Learning & Student Development. Dr. Harvey-Smith has more than 25 year of experience in educational leadership, instruction, training, development and consulting. She has written books on Leadership (CARE-Compassion, Appreciation, Respect and Empowerment, and Eclectic Insight. Dr. Harvey-Smith views leadership as a "calling to serve." She a member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC.) and the National Council on Black American Affairs, Northeast Region(NCBA/NE).



Dr. Thomas A. Isekenegbe, currently President of Bronx Community College in New York was President of Cumberland County College in Vineland N.J. for six years. President Isekenegbe (pronounced "Secken-egbe") has an outstanding administrative, teaching and leadership record that spans nearly 30 years at both two-year and four-year institutions of higher education. Dr. Isekenegbe has been a leader in developing high-quality academic programs that are data and employment driven. He directed the revision and redesign of Cumberland County College's remedial courses. The redesign is driven by longitudinal data collected in both remedial math and reading. Under his direction, the college joined the Achieving the Dream network of schools in 2010, which enhanced the use of data to make strategic academic decisions. Dr. Isekenegbe earned a bachelor's degree in biology with honors from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, and a master's in science education as well as an Ed. S. and Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction, from Indiana State University.

STUDENT PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Kani Bassey is a marketing professional and currently a student in the Community College Doctoral Leadership (CCLDP) program at Morgan State University. Kani brings to the table almost 20 years of professional experience in higher education admissions, enrollment management, recruiting and marketing. Kani serves as the Director of Marketing and Digital Media for Montgomery College in Maryland. She has also taught Social Media Management for the Center for Professional and Organizational Development. Kani's proven track record has been marked by successful social media implementation for the largest community college in Maryland, along with the launch of the college's new mascot, colors, and logo, steps towards the implementation of a new college brand! Kani holds a master's degree in Management – Public Relations from the University of Maryland – University College. She is a Certified Social Media Strategist and has won several Communicator and Telly awards for several marketing and advertising campaigns.



Gregory Cobb is an Assistant Professor at Bronx Community College of the City University of New York, teaching within the Human Services discipline. He is a New York State Licensed Social Worker, who began his tenure in academia after a successful 23-year career in Child Welfare, as both a direct service professional and program administrator. He has extensive experience with the implementation of Trauma Informed Systems of Care, based on his work with at-risk youth and families involved in the NY State Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems. He now utilizes a trauma-informed framework to examine a broad range of social, political and treatment oriented issues, impacting the lives of marginalized individuals and communities of color.



Dr. Ted N. Ingram is an Associate Professor in the Department of General Counseling at Bronx Community College (B.C.C.) of the City University of New York (C.U.N.Y.), working primarily with incoming students. Since 2007, he has been preparing freshmen students with basic survival skills in the area of time management, career goals, study skills, and other tools to navigate the higher education landscape. Dr. Ingram's research primarily focuses on the successful experiences of African American and Latino male students in college. He has written numerous journal articles and book chapters on undergraduate and graduate African American students enrolled in PWIs. Ingram's recent book, *Exploring Issues of Diversity within HBCUs*, highlights the various experiences of students and faculty at HBCU's. Professor Ingram is currently working on a book (with Professor James Coaxum, III) on supporting African American men in community colleges (under contract with Information Age).



Manny Lopez is the Associate Director for Leadership and Success at CUNY's Guttman Community College. As a student affairs professional for over a decade he has worked in the areas of Student Leadership and Success, Academic Advisement, General Counseling, Accessibility Services, and First-Year Experience programming. Additionally, Manny has taught the first-year-experience seminar for six years at Bronx Community College. Currently, Manny is at the dissertation phase of doctoral studies in the Urban Education, Ph.D. program at CUNY's Graduate Center. His general area of interest is human motivation. Specifically, his area of inquiry is the relationship between purpose in life and academic success in urban community college students. Manny has earned an A.A. in Liberal Arts, B.S. in Urban Public Health, M.A. in Philosophy, and an M.S. in Urban Affairs.



Ronald E. McKnight is an award winning Business Development & Executive Enhancement Professional, recently promoted to be The Director of the Office Multicultural Affairs at Bergen Community College. He has over 20 years of front line experience in a wide array of industries, including Adult Learning, Financial Services and Electronic Security industries. He has also a Dynamic Certified Trainer in the areas of outplacement, entrepreneurship, customer relations, networking, negotiation skills, interpersonal skills, sales, diversity, team building, effective listening, and time management. Ronald has managed training & development programs at Fortune 1000 companies. He has partnered with C-level management, HR & Training Directors, Senior VP's, VP's and Entrepreneurs to provide business development training programs. He has extensive sales and management experience.



Damien Robinson, Ed.D., was born and raised in San Diego, California. Upon graduating from high school, he received the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship, which covered the cost of his undergraduate and graduate school education. While at Howard University he became a member of the Xi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. He graduated from Howard University with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology at which point he was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa society. He went on to complete his Master's Degree in Counseling at San Diego State University and he earned his Doctorate degree from San Francisco State University in 2013. His published research focuses on the impact that environmental factors had on the "hope" levels of young students of color and how that "hope" impacted their academic achievement. He recently became a 2015 NCBAA LDI Scholar. He is currently an ACES Academic Coach at Montgomery College in Maryland



Edwin Roman has over 20 years of experience working with high school and college students on applications and scholarships. He has been with Bronx Community College for 13 years where he works with faculty to secure articulation agreements and with students on transfer applications. In 2006, he was interviewed and quoted in the book *Community College: Is It Right For You* where he explained the importance of understanding community college degrees. In his free time, Mr. Roman is an artist and designer who illustrated the international children's book, *The Adventures of Symmy The Square*, and the *Land of Shapes* and had artwork featured in the Emmy-nominated documentary *I Believe You*.

————— *Program is subject to changes* —————





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