LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the fifth issue of CareerFocus magazine! It’s hard to believe that this is the fifth edition since I started my tenure at Roxbury Community College—the time has certainly flown by! As I pause to reflect on the progress made since I joined the College, I am truly impressed by the growth of our institution, thanks to the hard work of our faculty, staff and students.

The spring semester of the 2015-2016 academic year marked yet another flurry of activity and accomplishments on our campus. To start, I need to congratulate our Lady Tigers on winning the NJCAA DIII National Championship! You can read more about their sensational run on page 10. I’m so proud of these talented women for all they have accomplished, on and off of the court. Go Tigers!

On the academic front, our faculty and staff worked tirelessly to ensure that our Nursing Program received re-accreditation and that our Honors Program received formal accreditation from the Commonwealth Honors Program. These accreditations confirm that we are providing our students with the highest-quality programs and services.

And, over the next few years, we’ll have the state-of-the-art buildings and infrastructure needed to continue to deliver our quality programming, thanks to funding from the Division of Capital Assessment Management and Maintenance (DCAMM). On April 7, 2016, we hosted a Groundbreaking Ceremony to formally launch the start of $47.5 million in renovations to our campus. Thanks to all of you who attended the ceremony—I hope that all of you will join us for a ribbon-cutting celebration when the renovations are complete.

You’ll read more about the Groundbreaking Ceremony, and other recent events at RCC, in this issue of CareerFocus. You’ll also learn more about the entrepreneurship training offered through our credit and non-credit business programs, our cutting-edge biotechnology program, our unparalleled student support services, and much more.

In closing, I hope to see you on-campus during the next few months. Our third annual Roxbury Rocks Music Festival will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2016, from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. See you there!

Kindest Regards,

Dr. Valerie Roberson
President

President Valerie Roberson with US Senator Edward Markey (D, MA) at a press conference on gun safety and gun violence prevention efforts on October 13, 2015.

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Questions regarding Roxbury Community College’s curriculum, programs, or admissions can be directed to 617.427.0060.

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Managing Editor ....................... Jordan Emily Smock
Editorial Committee...................... Nadia Lazo
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Nancy Santos
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Chief Human Resources/Affirmative Action Officer & Title IX Coordinator, 617-541-5386, Administration Building Room 313
Dean of Student Life and 504 Coordinator, 617-933-7450

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Community Leaders and Events at RCC

Roxbury Community College is a destination for government officials and community leaders dedicated to making a positive change in Roxbury and Greater Boston. Over the past year, countless leaders have stopped by RCC to speak with students, faculty and staff about some of the most pressing issues of today. These photos capture some, but not all, of the community events hosted at RCC over the past calendar year. Keep an eye on our website for information on recent events, and to learn more about upcoming events at RCC!

1. RCC President Valerie Roberson poses for a photo with Senator Elizabeth Warren (D, MA) at the Democratic State Committee Meeting (April 2016).

2. Mayor Setti Warren (D, Newton, MA) welcomes guests to the US Conference of Mayors’ Community Development & Housing Committee Town Hall: Economic Growth for All on October 7, 2016.

3. Congressman Michael Capuano (D, 7th District) with Professor Jacquolyn Payne-Thompson and RCC students during a classroom visit.

4. From left to right: Professor Justin Petty, Former MA Governor Michael Dukakis and Director Keith McDermott meet at the Broadcast Media Technology studio to film a segment for the Reggie Lewis Center’s 20th Anniversary Gala video tribute.

5. Massachusetts State Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz (D, 2nd Suffolk District) delivers the closing remarks at the US Conference of Mayors’ Community Development & Housing Committee Town Hall: Economic Growth for All on October 7, 2016.

6. Roxbury residents convene to discuss disparities/issues facing communities of color at a community activism event organized by Harvard Law Professor David Harris in partnership with RCC Professor Kevin Aylmer (April 2016). Photo credit: Lolita Parker, Jr./Charles Hamilton Houston Institute

7. Councilor Jackson speaks at “Reclaim Roxbury” about a community-driven process for Roxbury to identify shared goals and take action on planning and development decisions that impact Roxbury.

8. Senator Ed Markey (D, MA) speaks to reporters about gun safety and gun violence prevention efforts and legislation on October 13, 2015. Prior to the press conference, he met with community leaders to discuss these same topics.
Student Support at RCC

Department of Testing

At RCC, we’re committed to providing our students with the tools and resources needed for academic and career success. In this edition, we highlight the assessment services provided by our Department of Testing. For information on additional student support services at RCC, including Single Stop, Disability Services, Testing, and Advising, visit our website.

The Department of Testing at Roxbury Community College is responsible for administering tests that grant credits or provide proof of eligibility at RCC and other institutions. We currently offer the following tests:

- **College Placement Testing** – New RCC students are required to take an Assessment/Placement Test to determine the appropriate course level at which to begin their studies. The Placement Test is used to evaluate the students’ skills level in English, Math and Science, and to identify academic strengths and needs.

- **HiSET** (the new GED® test in Massachusetts) – In 2014, Massachusetts and other states replaced the GED® exam with a new test, the HiSET. Those who take and pass all five sections of the HiSET earn a Massachusetts High School Equivalency Diploma.

- **TEAS** – The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is one component for selecting students for admission to the competitive Nursing and Allied Health programs.

- **CLEP® Exams** – The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams provide an opportunity for students to earn college credit for prior knowledge of skills and to have those credits counted toward their Roxbury Community College degree requirements.

Interested in taking these tests at RCC? Here is some additional information about each of the tests, to help you determine your eligibility and sign-up:

**College Placement Testing**

Only newly admitted RCC students are eligible to take this test. To prepare for the RCC placement exams, you can visit www.accuplacer.org to access sample questions and a free study app; or, contact Joyce Atkinson, Coordinator of Learning Resources, at jatkinson@rcc.mass.edu or 617-933-7403.

Ready to take your exams? Contact the Department of Testing at testing@rcc.mass.edu or 617-708-3628.

**College-Level Examination Program® (CLEP®) Exams**

Anyone who is hoping to obtain college credit through CLEP can register for CLEP exams at RCC; however, we recommend that you check your school’s CELP policy before purchasing a ticket with the CLEP board. Sample questions and study guides for all CLEP® exams are available on the College Board website. To register for a CLEP exam, learn more about the CLEP exams, or register for an exam, visit: http://www.rcc.mass.edu/future-students/assessment/clep to make an appointment for a CLEP test at RCC.

**High School Equivalency Testing (HiSET, formerly GED®)**

Anyone who is looking to obtain a Massachusetts High School Equivalency Diploma is eligible to take this test. The cost of the test varies depending on your individual circumstances. RCC offers a HiSET prep course to help you prepare for the test (additional information below). All HiSet registration must be done on the HiSET website: http://www.hiset.ets.org/.

**Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)**

Anyone is welcome to register for TEAS at RCC. You do not have to be an RCC student. If you are submitting your results to other colleges, make sure that those colleges accept off-site test results. Our Department of Corporate and Community Education & Lifelong Learning offers TEAS courses at affordable rates, to help you prepare for the test (below). Registration must be done online. To register, go to www.atitesting.com.

**MEET THE STUDENTS**

Lounely Jean, AA in Health Careers, May 2016
Stephania Cetoute, AA in Health Careers, May 2016

Lounely and Stephania both decided to take the French Language French CLEP Tests to earn credits towards their degrees. As native French speakers, neither had to study much to take and pass the test. By passing the test, both earned credits toward their degree and were able to complete their degree requirements in two years. Both Lounely and Stephania are graduating from RCC this spring with plans to enroll in RCC’s Nursing Program this fall.

**PREPARE FOR THE HISET AND TEAS AT RCC**

RCC offers preparation courses to help students take charge of their futures and get ready for either the HiSET (formerly GED) exam or the TEAS exam. Students benefit from our highly qualified instructors, reasonable class sizes, supportive learning environments, and additional free resources such as tutoring, goal-setting, and mentoring.

- **HiSET Prep Classes** – Gain confidence and knowledge as we work with you to earn your high school equivalency diploma. We offer classes for writing, reading, math, science, and social studies. Classes are taught in either English or Spanish.
- **TEAS Exam Prep Classes** – Interested in applying to a nursing/allied health program? Give yourself a head start for this exam required by RCC’s Nursing Department (along with other schools) as part of the admissions process. We offer classes for science, math, and English/reading.

For current information on course schedules, visit www.rcc.mass.edu/LL or contact us at (617) 933-7410 or email LifelongLearning@rcc.mass.edu
At RCC, we’re committed to making sure our community is equipped with the skills and knowledge needed for a successful career in business. Whether you’re interested in earning a business degree, looking to learn more about starting your own business, or just looking for exposure to business resources, we have a program or agreement to meet your needs.

**Business Degrees at RCC**

**Associate’s in Arts in Business Administration**
This program is designed for students interested in transferring to a four-year college to pursue a major in accounting, banking, computer information systems, insurance, management, retailing, or other related business fields. A combination of specialized business courses and a broad-based liberal arts curriculum provides a strong foundation in oral and written communication, mathematics, and accounting. Career opportunities in this field are available in both the public and private sectors, and may include employment in government agencies, schools, industries, and accounting, insurance, or advertising firms.

**Associate’s in Science in Business Management**
The AS degree in Business Management provides a broad background in the basic principles and applications of marketing, production, finance, personnel management, and accounting. Students acquire skills that can be applied in a wide variety of businesses in positions such as management trainee, assistant manager, administrative assistant, or sales trainee. Students can enhance their career options by concentrating their course work in retailing, marketing, personnel, or other areas, and by participating in internship opportunities.

**Strategic Alliance Memorandum (SAM) with the US Small Business Administration**
On February 24, 2016, The United States Small Business Administration (SBA) and Roxbury Community College signed a Strategic Alliance Memorandum. Both organizations are joined by a common mission; helping start, maintain,
Through this SAM, RCC and the SBA will work together in the spirit of cooperation and open communications, with the primary goal of meeting the needs of the small business community.

and expand small businesses. Through this SAM, RCC and the SBA will work together in the spirit of cooperation and open communications, with the primary goal of meeting the needs of the small business community.

Through this agreement, the SBA is providing RCC with up-date information on the SBA’s programs and services, information on the SBA’s resource partners, speakers to participate in College workshops, conferences, and seminars, and much more. In exchange, RCC will distribute information provided by the SBA, refer members of our community to the SBA, and disseminate information provided by the SBA, and more.

“This SAM agreement between RCC and the Small Business Administration lays the groundwork to build the bridge for members of the community to gain economic freedom; where the link between a new business idea or venture and the supporting resources come together,” says Vice President of Advancement and Community Engagement Lorita Williams. “Together, we will empower members of the community to be part of the economic engine.”

Start Your Own Business Course at RCC

When you enter Professor Janai Mungalsingh’s Starting Your Own Business course, it looks like any other course at an institution of higher education. Her students are standing at podium or excitedly discussing their final presentations, making final adjustments and edits prior to class starting. But this course is much different. In this class, all of Professor Mungalsingh’s students are getting ready to share the details of the revenue-generating businesses they’ve developed over the past semester.

Starting Your Own Business (BUS 181-01) was designed with a simple purpose: to harness entrepreneurial skills and thinking and apply both to real world experiences. This allows students to identify opportunities to create their own sustainable solutions that speak to their skills and passions.

Professor Mungalsingh is a visiting professor from Babson University, teaching at RCC for the first time. She uses the Babson-approved methodology in her classroom, whereby the text Ideas for Action shepherds her students through the process, helping to identify and influence venture creation.

“The ventures developed during this class are already revenue-generating while still in their infancy,” says Professor Mungalsingh. “These students have created models for sustainability and growth. All of these students are at the stage where they are actively interacting with customers. The next steps for these business ventures are incubation and successful launch.”

As each student steps up to the podium to discuss the progress of his or her small business, the products or services developed are more and more impressive. Laidy Loff Barbos created Goalz, a net designed specifically for beach soccer. Karianna Issac used her own experience as an asthmatic and the mother of a child with asthma to develop Breathing Made Easy, a holistic asthma prevention service. Zoahrab Haider designed HomeZ, a home buying application designed to assist realtors and brokers. And Dina L. Montero worked to help her friend and business partner expand the customer base for Capre’s Kitchen, a healthy, full-service catering company.

As the students present their business ventures to the classmates, one is immediately impressed by both the quality of the products developed, and with the professionalism of the presenters. All of the students are well-versed on current business technology and trends.

“We cover digital marketing—including social media and web content management—in this course. The students really learn all of the skills required for a successful career in business,” says Professor Mungalsingh.

It’s clear that the students in this course are learning much about how the business world operates, in addition to building their entrepreneurial skill set. Professor Mungalsingh hopes to continue teaching this course in the future. It certainly would fit her legacy well: Professor Mungalsingh’s mother, Valerie Atherly, is a current RCC professor and an RCC alum.

Are you the next big entrepreneur? Be your own boss!

Create Your Own Job (8-Week Seminar)

Learn how to start your own business!

Entrepreneurship Seminar: Create Your Own Job

This seminar is offered through RCC’s Department of Corporate and Community Education & Lifelong Learning. The course is geared towards individuals who are formalizing a business idea or who are in the early stages of starting a business. This seminar is brought to you through a partnership between the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Right and Economic Justice and Roxbury Community College.

The course meets Mondays, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., starting on September 12, 2015. To sign up or learn more, call 617-933-7410 or email LHagen@rcc.mass.edu.
Biotechnology at Roxbury Community College

How to Enroll:
Ready to start your biotech studies at RCC? Becoming a student is a simple process. Get started today by filling out an application form, one of two ways. You can either:
1. Apply online, for free: www.rcc.mass.edu, or
2. Apply in-person, at the Enrollment Center. A $10.00 application fee must accompany all paper applications.

Questions? Need more info?
Contact the Enrollment Center with admissions-related questions:
The Enrollment Center Administration Building (#2), Room 102.
Telephone: 617-541-5320 or 617-541-5310.
Email: enrollment.management@rcc.mass.edu

Contact Biotechnology Department Program Coordinator with academic questions:
Dr. Kristin Laird
Telephone: 617-427-0060 ext. 521
Email: klaird@rcc.mass.edu

Are you interested in joining one of the most rapidly expanding industries in Massachusetts? Want to become an expert in the field that has revolutionized the way we understand and view living systems? Then RCC’s Biotechnology Program is right for you!

Why RCC?
1. Established Industry Partnerships – In order to earn RCC’s AS in Biotechnology, you must complete a 250 hour internship. All students who meet minimum qualifications receive assistance obtaining internships. Examples of internship sites include:
   a. Winchester Engineering and Analytical Center (Food and Drug Administration)
   b. Harvard Medical School
   c. UMASS Boston

2. Cost Savings – Tuition and fees for a standard year of studies at Roxbury Community College is $5,470. The average cost of a year of studies at MA state universities is $9,122, at a UMass campus its $13,501, and a private school in MA can cost as much as $48,030. At RCC, you’ll save a significant amount of money without sacrificing quality. And, you may be eligible Pell Grants, or other financial aid, to further cover the costs of your education.

3. Employment Opportunities – After earning your degree at RCC, you’ll be qualified to join the workforce. Many of our graduates find employment as laboratory technicians or laboratory assistants, which offer impressive salaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Approximate Salary Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Assistant</td>
<td>$32,000 - $48,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Assistant</td>
<td>$24,00 - $33,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glasswasher</td>
<td>$22,00 - $29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing Associate</td>
<td>$35,00 - $60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aseptic Fill Technician</td>
<td>$28,000 - $44,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Control (QC) Technician</td>
<td>$31,000 - $38,000 (entry-level)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Assurance (QA) Documentation Coordinator/Associate</td>
<td>$28,000 - $39,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Data Association</td>
<td>$13.20 (hourly rate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation Assistant</td>
<td>$13.20 (hourly rate)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Within these job titles, graduates work in a wide array of specific topics, such as molecular biology, protein chemistry, cell culture, immunohistochemistry, to name a few.

4. Transfer Opportunities – Upon graduating from RCC with an AS in Biotechnology, you can transfer to a four-year school to continue your studies. In the past, our graduates have transferred to Boston University, UMass Boston and UMass Lowell.

5. Massachusetts Life Sciences Center Platinum Endorsement – Both our certificate program and our AS program are platinum endorsed by the Massachusetts Life Science Center. We are one of only four MA community colleges to have biotech programs with platinum-level endorsements.

Data provided by: https://www.massbioed.org

Data provided by:
Figures current as February 2016.
RCC Faculty and Staff Spotlight

At RCC, our faculty and staff are committed to student success, inside and outside of the classroom. In this issue, we learn more about two of our esteemed STEM employees who work tirelessly to ensure that RCC students are receiving hands-on, practical training in our laboratories and classrooms.

Hillel Sims

At Roxbury Community College our STEM division is on the cusp of new technology and modernization thanks in part to Dr. Hillel Sims, director of science laboratories. Hillel Sims is a highly qualified scientist and educator with extensive experience in Molecular Biology and Genetics. Hillel has always had an interest in the sciences. A native of Long Island, his first research position was at the age of 16, working at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories.

Before joining the team at RCC, Hillel spent several years working for biotechnology companies in the Boston area as a senior scientist as well as director of operations. After High School, Hillel attended Brandeis University and later the Tufts University Sackler School where he earned his PhD in Genetics. Hillel's post-doctoral fellowship was done at Brandeis University as well.

Today, in his role as director, he balances his time between supervising the laboratory technicians and work study students, working directly with faculty on the laboratory renovation project, coordinating equipment purchases using funds from the department’s $1 million Massachusetts Life Sciences Center equipment grant, and functioning as the Science Department’s health & safety officer.

“I specifically wanted to work at RCC because it presented the opportunity to teach in addition to managing the labs.”

Stacey Olson

Stacy Olson is a revered science faculty member and department chair here at Roxbury Community College. She joined the Science Department in September 2009 as an adjunct professor and quickly become an asset to the department. The sciences are a lifelong interest for Stacey. She is excited to share advances in the field with students who are interested in STEM careers.

Stacey has presented research at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) as well as served on various panels, including the MA STEM Summit and stays abreast of what the industry is looking for in our graduates.

Professor Olson comes to us from Detroit Mi, where she was educated and began her professional career. She earned her BS in Biology and an MS degree Cellular and Molecular Biology Oakland University. After earning her MS, Professor Olson worked for Pfizer as a scientist and later Cayman Chemicals as a Biochemistry Research Associate while teaching at Wayne County Community College. “What I enjoyed the most about research was that the work we were doing would help people—either help diagnose, help to treat or just help to understand a problem,” says Professor Olson.

Since joining RCC, Professor Olson has enjoyed watching the growth in her students, “I had a student who came to RCC and took our foundational course in science, General Science. She worked hard and walked across the stage with her degree in Lab Animal Care. It was a wonderful accomplishment for her!”

Looking to get started on your STEM studies? Professor Olson encourage you to meet with your science advisor early to determine a curriculum that can be tailored to your career aspirations.
The Summer Arts Intensive at Roxbury Community College
6 Weeks: July 5, 2016 – August 12, 2016, Ages 10+

CASTING CALL: Creative Kids & Budding Young Actors! Designed for children ages 10-15 (mature 9-year-olds will be accepted), this program is a combination of theater, dance, and creative writing. Other workshops will include mask decorating, stage lighting, and taiko drums. Participants will hone their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills throughout this program, as well as engage in physical activities.

Auditions/Interviews are required. To schedule an audition, contact Pam Green at (617) 541-5830 or pgreen@rcc.mass.edu.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:
• Six weeks starting July 5, 2016
• Mondays through Fridays, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

COST:
• $600 for six weeks; payment plans available
• $475 special if you pay in full by June 10, 2016

QUESTIONS:
• (617) 933-7410 OR LHagen@rcc.mass.edu
• (617) 541-5380 OR prgreen@rcc.mass.edu

Enroll your kids in our Summer Arts Intensive Program! This program is offered jointly by the Media Arts Center and the Lifelong Learning Department.

Watch your kids shine with their creativity!

“I was nervous at the audition because it was my first time acting; but, the director (Mr. Hughes) guided me through the process. After the performance, I felt good and proud of myself. My brother was impressed that I was in a Shakespeare play at age 10.”

Albert Muthemba, Acting Up Participant, Spring 2016

The Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center

The Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center at Roxbury Community College celebrated its 20th track season in style, hosting myriad national and international events. During the 2015-2016 season, the “Reggie” played host to the 2016 New Balance Indoor Grand Prix, the 2016 ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships, the New England High School Track and Field Championships, along with countless state and local meets. The “Reggie’s” track remains one of the fastest in the world: as of 2016, 41+ World and American Records have been set at the “Reggie.”

In addition to hosting track and athletic events, the “Reggie” provides low-cost and free athletic and holistic programming to our community. To help fund these programs, the Reggie hosts an annual Golf Tournament. This year’s tournament is on Friday, July 15, 2016. Sign-up your foursome today, and spend a day golfing for a good cause!
Recap: Roxbury Community College’s Groundbreaking Ceremony

On Thursday, April 7, 2016, Roxbury Community College hosted a Groundbreaking Ceremony to mark the official start of major campus renovations, funded by the MA Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM). The wind and rain that forced the ceremony indoors didn’t put a damper on a successful day, as students, staff, faculty and community members attended in droves to celebrate the first significant renovations to our campus since 1988.

1. Mayor Martin J. Walsh joins RCC administrators, RCC Board of Trustee members, state representatives and city councilors prior to the start of the ceremony, in the Media Arts Center’s Green Room.

2. RCC Board of Trustees Vice Chair Michael Curry, Esq. speaks about how these important renovations will benefit the community-at-large.

3. Director of Admissions Judy Webster and Social Media and Campus Events Coordinator Vanessa Lewis greet guests prior to the start of the ceremony.

4. From left to right: Vice President of Advancement and Community Engagement Lorita Williams, Representative Russell Holmes, Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, DCAMM Commissioner Carol Gladstone, President Valerie Roberson, Vice Chair Michael Curry, Esq, Councilor Tito Jackson, Professor Jacquolyn Payne-Thompson, Student Trustee Hlee Yang, Representative “Liz” Malia and Trustee Steven Tompkins “break ground” to formally launch the renovations.

5. The Lady Tigers pose for a photo, at the reception, with Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, President Valerie Roberson, Vice President Lorita Williams and Representative Russell Holmes.

6. Ceremony attendees listen to speaker remarks.

7. RCC faculty enjoying the Groundbreaking Reception.

8. Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh speaks with our Lady Tigers, the 2016 NJCAA DIII Women’s Basketball Champions, during the Groundbreaking Reception.

9. DCAMM Commissioner Carol Gladstone shares details about the planned renovations during the ceremony.

10. RCC faculty and staff come together to pose for a group photo at the end of the Groundbreaking Reception.

11. From left to right: MCCEO Executive Director William D. Hart, Representative Russell Holmes, President Valerie Roberson, Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Trustee Steven Tompkins pictured after the ceremony, with a groundbreaking award.
Lady Tiger’s Win First-Ever National Championship Title for Women’s Basketball Program

After a gritty, hard-fought performance in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) DIII National Championship Tournament, the 2015-2016 Roxbury Community College (RCC) Lady Tigers are the National Champions. This is the first-ever national championship win for the women’s program.

“I couldn’t be any prouder of this team,” says Dr. Valerie Roberson, president of Roxbury Community College. “It was heartbreaking watching so many of the same players come up short in last year’s tournament. Watching these players accomplish their ultimate goal in this year’s tournament has been a joy.”

The RCC Lady Tigers entered the national championship tournament as the #1 seed, with a 23-2 record. On Thursday, March 10th, the Tigers handily beat the #8 seeded Ocean County College, 86-63. The Lady Tigers then beat the #5 seeded West Georgia Technical College 61-54 on Friday, March 11th to earn a spot in the national championship game against Northland Community and Technical College (Minn.)

The national championship game proved to be one of the Lady Tiger’s most contested matches of the year. Neither team held a lead of more than 8 points throughout the contest. Roxbury found itself down 4 points to start the 4th quarter but battled back to take a 1 point lead 2 minutes in. A huge 3-pointer by Sophomore Amariah Brown put the team up by 5, and they held on for the 4 point victory. Taj Lewis led the Lady Tigers in scoring with 18 points and Alyssa Stewart had a great all-around game with 13 points, 12 rebounds and 7 blocks. In the end, the Lady Tigers preserved and earned the title of DIII National Champions by a score of 61-57.

“To bring a National Championship back home to Roxbury Community College is an awesome achievement for our student-athletes,” says Head Coach Mark Leszczyk. “It is a testament to their determination, character and their ability to believe that with hard work anything is achievable. It goes without saying that none of this could have been possible without the support of the RCC Community as a whole, but especially Erica Rivers, the director of athletics and student life.”

In addition to earning a national title, three of the Lady Tigers received individual awards for their performance during the tournament. Alyssa Stewart and Ryia Newsome were named to the “All Tournament Team.” Taj Lewis was named Tournament MVP.

“It’s really a bitter-sweet feeling,” says co-captain Ryia Newsome. “Knowing what we have gone through all season, including all of the obstacles we have overcome, makes this an amazing experience and something that I will never forget. At the same time, though, I realized this morning that I will never wear a Roxbury uniform again or play with teammates that have become my sisters for life.”

Perhaps the most impressive component of the victory is the fact that the Lady Tigers were able to secure the win with only six players on the roster. Of those six players, five will graduate this year, leaving Coach Leszczyk and his staff with a substantial rebuild.

After winning the championship title, our Lady Tigers and their coaches continued to receive accolades. Center Alyssa Stewart was recognized as the 2015-16 Spalding® NJCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Player of the Year by the NJCAA DIII Women’s Basketball Committee. This marks the second straight year that a Roxbury player has received the honor, as Tigers sophomore forward Tajmahnae Lewis earned the award as a freshman in 2014-15. Roxbury Community College Women’s Head Basketball Coach Mark Leszczyk was named the 2015-16 Spalding® NJCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Coach of the Year.

“This has been an amazing run with an amazing group of young ladies who believed in themselves, their teammates, and their coaches,” says Coach Leszczyk. “My Associate Coach Kisandra Ayanbeku had so much to do with this; without her, this would not have been possible. The Roxbury Lady Tigers are National Champions. UNBELIEVABLE!”
Veteran Services

Roxbury Community is committed to assisting our U.S. military veterans, reservists, guardsmen, and active duty personnel with navigating the educational process so that they can achieve their educational and professional goals. We have created a veteran-friendly environment that encourages veterans and their families to further their education and transition to college.

Before coming to Roxbury Community College please visit www.gibill.va.gov or contact the VA representative (V.A. Buffalo: 888-442-4551) in order to obtain a Certificate of Eligibility.

We also recommend that veteran students also complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at https://fafsa.ed.gov/. You may qualify for grants to assist in paying for your education and supplies in addition to veteran benefits.

Are you a veteran ready to move forward in your career? To get started, contact:

Judy Webster
Director of Admissions
Room 102, Administration Building
Roxbury Community College
1234 Columbus Avenue
Roxbury, MA 02120
Tel: (617) 708-3740
Fax: 617-427-5316
Email: jwebster@rcc.mass.edu

Meet Our Student Geoffrey L. Jenkins

Geoffrey L. Jenkins is veteran of the United States Armed Forces who is currently enrolled at RCC. Prior to his three tours in Iraq and his one tour in Afghanistan, he was employed as an auto mechanic. After leaving the armed forces, Geoffrey decided that he wanted to use the skills he learned in the field in his career. “All of us were trained to be trauma responders while on-duty,” says Geoffrey, “I decided that becoming a nurse would allow me to formally continue the training that I learned while on tour.” Geoffrey is currently completing his pre-requisite courses, before formally joining the nursing program. He hopes to complete the program in 2018.

The Dual Enrollment Program at Roxbury Community College

The Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Program (CDEP) provides opportunities for high school students to take college-level courses free of charge and simultaneously earn credit toward high school completion as well as their future college degrees through a discretionary state grant program.

What are the benefits of CDEP?

CDEP allows students the opportunity to enter their college careers already having earned college credit. This helps with the transition to college, allows student to get a head start on their college degrees, saving them time and money, and provides meaningful and challenging academic experiences.

Students who participate in CDEP are required to receive high school and college credit for the courses they successfully complete.

While is eligible to participate?

To be eligible to participate, students must:

- Be Massachusetts residents.
- Be enrolled in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 in a Massachusetts public secondary school or non-public school, including home school.
- Meet all course prerequisites as required by the participating college or university campus. (Prerequisites are courses that a student must complete before taking a more advanced course in the subject area. For example, before you can take Calculus, you may have to take Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and Trigonometry. A course prerequisite could also include taking a college-level placement exam.)
- Have a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Not have earned a high school diploma or GED.

Although not a requirement for participation, colleges and universities are required to focus efforts on enrolling qualified students with particular emphasis on first-generation college students and students who are interested in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

Ready to get started on learn more? Contact:

Enrollment Center
Building 2, Room 102
1234 Columbus Avenue
Roxbury, MA 02120
Tel: 617-708-3739
Or visit: http://www.rcc.mass.edu/future-students/how-to-apply/dual-enrollment
CAPTURE YOUR SUCCESS!

Take the next step with the Department of Corporate and Community Education & Lifelong Learning at Roxbury Community College.

Roxbury Community College offers you opportunities to decide how you want to take charge and progress in your life. Whether it’s earning a certificate, making a career change, improving your skills, gaining a certification, or expanding your knowledge for professional or personal growth, we have a program for you.

REGISTER FOR ONE OF OUR NON-CREDIT CERTIFICATE AND LIFELONG LEARNING COURSES TODAY!

“"The program’s instructor was very knowledgeable and kept us motivated. I took the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam as soon as I finished program at RCC and I passed. Now, I am a licensed pharmacy technician.”

Uttara Ghimire
Pharmacy Technician, Fall 2016

“"I was interested in the program because I knew it offered great job opportunities after a short training period. I currently work at Massachusetts General Hospital as phlebotomy technician. My job is going well because I got all of the information, training, and practice at RCC. I look forward to continuing my career in the medical field and become a lab technician.”

Jagannath Wagle
Phlebotomy Technician, Spring 2015

“Shortly after completing the class, Lazaire got his real state license and became an agent for Home America Realty & Investments. “My goal is to be an entrepreneur, this program is a stepping stone.”

Lazaire Delisca
Real State Pre-Licensing, Spring 2015

“"The classes really prepared me to take the exams - I was actually really looking forward to taking the exams, since I was so well prepared. All of the instructors were really dedicated to my success, and met with me outside of class hours to make sure I understood the material. I’m attending College now, and I couldn’t be where I am today without the HSET prep courses at RCC.”

Roodson Rene
HiSET Prep Classes (Formerly GED), Spring 2016

Sisters Diana (Entrepreneurship Seminar participant) and Angelica (current Business Administration student at RCC) are the creators of Chocafefe and ManiNuts. The sisters were recently nominated for the Neighborhood Business category for the 2016 ILC Immigrant Entrepreneur of the Year Award and were invited to submit a Shark Tank audition tape.

Angelica and Diana Cardona
Entrepreneurship: Create Your Own Job Seminar, Spring 2015

Ogochukwu Igweobi
TEAS Prep Classes, Spring 2015

Accept into RCC Nursing program in January 2015!
Make Your Summer Count!

Summer Session II Starts July 5th
Fall Semester Starts September 7th

Register Now!
www.rcc.mass.edu
617-541-5310

One College. Countless Opportunities.

- Earn Your Associate’s Degree
- Complete a Certificate Program
- Become a Member of the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center
- Watch a Performance at the Media Arts Center
- Take a Lifelong Learning Class for Personal Growth
- Advance Your Career Through Corporate and Community Education

www.rcc.mass.edu