

THE CROSSING

Roxbury Community College Monthly Bulletin

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COLLEGE VISITS

❖ *RCC Presidential Finalists Tour Campus, Meet With RCC Community*

The four finalists for president of Roxbury Community College visited the campus this month. During individual visits, the finalists met with RCC's Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students. The four finalists are Alex Kajstura, President, Northwest Campus, Prima Community College, Arizona; Valerie R. Roberson, Vice President, Academic Affairs, Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Illinois; George Santiago, Jr., President, Briarcliffe College, New York, and Evon Walters, Executive Dean/CEO, Eastern Campus, Suffolk County Community College, New York. The goal of the Board of Trustees is to have the new president of RCC in place by mid-summer.

❖ *Haitian Prime Minister at RCC*

Laurent Salvador Lamothe, the Prime Minister of Haiti, was at Roxbury Community College earlier this month to meet with the RCC community and with the Roxbury community at large. Mr. Lamothe's visit was sponsored by the Consulate General of Haiti in Boston. RCC was chosen as the site of the Prime Minister's visit, according to the Consulate General's Office, because the College "has served the Haitian community for decades."

❖ *Author Steve Pemberton Speaks to Students*

Steve Pemberton, author of *A Chance in the World*, who was guest speaker at last year's Commencement Ceremony, paid a special visit to students enrolled in sections of the *College Experience* course. Mr. Pemberton's book is a required text for the *College Experience* course and is RCC's selection for this year's One Book, One Campus. Mr. Pemberton, who is Divisional Vice-President and Chief Diversity Officer for Walgreens, discussed the writing of *A Chance in the World*, answered questions, and autographed copies of his book.

❖ *Large Crowd Attends Spring Career Fair*

An estimated 300 RCC students, faculty and staff, alumni, and community residents attended RCC's *Spring 2013 Career Fair*. Nearly 40 employers including Boston Children's Hospital, the Department of Environmental Protection, Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, and the Spaulding Rehabilitation Network, were on hand to greet job seekers.

❖ *Danielle Tabela Wins 2013 Daryal Penn Award*

Danielle Tabela, Chief GED Examiner at RCC, was the 2013 recipient of the Daryal Penn Employee Service Award at the 3rd Annual Employee Service Awards dinner held last month. The Award is presented to a full-time RCC employee who has shown deep dedication and commitment to the College. Also honored at the dinner were employees who have 10-25 years of service at the College.

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❖ *RCC's Mentoring for Success Program Wins Praise and Support*

RCC's Mentoring for Success program was featured in the Highland Street Corps News, Spring Edition. The College recently received an award from Mass Mentoring Partnership to support an Ambassador of Mentoring for a 5th year. The College is applying for additional funds to support a RCC Mentoring Campaign.

ATHLETICS

❖ *Two RCC Basketball Players Receive National Recognition*

Roxbury Community College Men's Basketball player Paul Becklens was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division III All-American Team. The 6'0 guard was cited for his consistent overall play and defensive toughness. Additionally, Shannon Samuels, a 5'5 point guard on the RCC Women's Basketball Team, was named to the Division III All-American Team. Shannon was acknowledged for her consistent ability to score and involve her teammates.

❖ *Annual Athletics Banquet Scheduled*

RCC's Annual Athletics Banquet is scheduled for Thursday May 2, at 6:00 p.m. at the Reggie Lewis Center Gymnasium, 1350 Tremont Street, Boston. In addition to great food, Roxbury Community College's athlete/scholars will receive awards and recognition.

❖ *Acts of Kindness*

In the days following the horrific bombings at the Boston Marathon finish line, groups and individuals from across the country—including people at Roxbury Community College—responded with acts of kindness. RCC Board of Trustees member Stanley Wong and his family, owners of Kowloon Restaurant in Saugus, donated food for 100 volunteers involved in the clean-up of Towne and Spirits Restaurant on Boylston Street. Likewise, Professor Veronica McCormack, Chair of the Language Department, joined by Professors Bonnie Besdin and Andrew English and a group of ESOL students, took a signed Message for Peace to the Marathon Memorial Site at Copley Square. "The compassion expressed by the students was beautiful," said Professor McCormack. As the RCC Community, along with the rest of Boston, still find it difficult to comprehend the terrible events surrounding the Boston Marathon, we are proud of the heartfelt response to this tragedy.

❖ *Roxbury Community College Commencement*

Roxbury Community College's Commencement will be held at 1:00 p.m. on May 17 at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center. The Commencement Speaker will be Steven Tompkins, Suffolk County Sheriff and Vice Chair of RCC's Board of Trustees. Accepting the *Community Service Award* will be artist John Wilson, whose sculpture of a father and child reading is located at RCC.