



A BRIGHTER  
FUTURE  
*Within  
Reach*

2019 President's Report

**BRISTOL**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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Leadership

## A MESSAGE FROM *President Douglas*

Everyone deserves the life-changing opportunities that come with having a college education. And our region deserves the countless benefits that come with a broadly educated citizenry. That is why I have dedicated my first two years as President of Bristol Community College to promoting a college-going culture in our region and creating equitable access to affordable, quality higher education. I want every single resident to know that a college education is for them — even if they think they lack the means or life experience to attend. Whether they did not finish high school or cannot speak English, we are their college.

To ease access, we have developed unprecedented collaborations with K-12 and four-year institutions. These partnerships open new pathways to enrollment at Bristol and onramps to a four-year degree. They also reduce the cost of college attendance and provide the highest quality education at the most affordable cost in the region. Like all our students, they can count on inescapable support from Bristol faculty and staff that goes well beyond the classroom.

Bristol also partners with businesses, social service agencies and other organizations to ensure that our programs meet current community needs and anticipated future demands. We are a leading force in the region's offshore wind industry, offering the United States' only associate degree program in offshore wind power technology and establishing a National Offshore Wind Institute, right here in southeastern Massachusetts.

The college has placed great emphasis on building a strategic enrollment management plan that reaches out to students who are underrepresented in college. We have kicked off a series of Family Nights celebrating the many cultures that reflect our region, and we are focused on student and family engagement as a means to ensure student success. We also instituted Key Performance Indicators that monitor various layers of the student experience and outlined pathways for success, such as our Title III grant initiative.

But there is much more to do. The future is here, and it's time to focus our work on equity-mindedness. We need to be change agents who are willing to address equity issues and create transformational change for student learning so that we can close achievement gaps and create a diverse, inclusive environment at all Bristol locations and beyond.

Please read this report to learn the details of many of our new initiatives. I am so proud of the work we do here at Bristol, and I am grateful for the many people who contribute to our success. Our dedication to access, student success, equity, diversity and inclusion all point to a strong future for Bristol Community College. Together, we are putting our students' dreams within reach, and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

Best regards,



Laura L. Douglas, Ph.D.



WITHIN  
REACH

*Improving  
Access*

A day in the life of the  
Multicultural Student  
Center

# Your Bachelor's Begins at

**B**ristol Community College is blazing new pathways to success across southeastern Massachusetts – promoting programs that prepare students for the high-demand jobs of the future, enveloping students with specialized support, and creating flexible programs to make college more accessible.

Improving access to higher education is a top priority at Bristol, where President Laura L. Douglas, Ph.D. and her staff have developed innovative transfer agreements and pathways that help students save time and cut costs. These pragmatic new programs are putting a college degree within reach for many who might otherwise be unable to afford higher education.

Bristol has grown its **dual enrollment** program, which allows high school students to earn college

engineering and savings of nearly \$23,000.

Transferring from Bristol to a four-year institution is easier than ever for students through two new programs, **Bristol+UMassD** and **BCC2BSU**.

The programs offer guaranteed admission from Bristol into the four-year school while enjoying benefits at both schools – either UMass Dartmouth or Bridgewater State University. A university advisor comes to Bristol to counsel students, who can carry ID cards for both Bristol and their future school, enjoying access to university activities and resources.

“Engaging with the university early helps ease the ‘transfer shock’ that is often experienced when students transfer to the four-year school,”

said Stefanie Deprey, Coordinator of Transfer Affairs and Articulation.

Bristol and UMass Dartmouth also have collaborated to create a three-year, full-time express degree in business. Students earn their associate degree in 18 months at Bristol, then transfer to UMass Dartmouth for another 18 months. The fast-track program is great for adult learners and places students into the

workforce earlier, enabling them to pay off any student debt sooner and start saving for the future.

Bristol also adheres to the **MassTransfer** program, which makes it easier for community

college students to transfer credits to any state university.

The **Commonwealth Commitment** is a

MassTransfer program that offers a guaranteed freeze on tuition and fees for all four years upon entry to an eligible community college program. Students who commit to completing their college education in four years can save an average of 40 percent off the cost of a traditional bachelor’s degree.

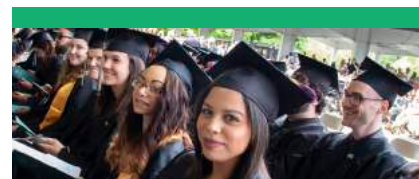
In addition to MassTransfer and the unique programs with Bridgewater State and UMass Dartmouth, Bristol negotiates articulation agreements with numerous four-year schools directly.

Several new articulation agreements are being established each semester, including recent agreements with Southern New Hampshire University, Rhode Island College, Curry College and most recently an RN to BSN at Fitchburg State University.



# Bristol

credit, to nearly 400 students a semester. A new **College Access Pathway in Engineering** program will enable Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School students to earn a full year of college credits while still in high school. The next step is one year at Bristol, followed by two years at UMass Dartmouth, resulting in a three-year Bachelor of Science degree in



LEARN MORE AT  
[BristolCC.edu/TransferAgreements](https://BristolCC.edu/TransferAgreements)

## Bristol Gets a New Look

This year was transformational for the college with the unveiling of a new logo and a reimagined brand identity that represents the high-quality education and exceptional student experience that Bristol has to offer. For the first time in the college's history, the logo emphasizes the name of the college, Bristol, rather than its three-letter acronym, BCC. The logo has a "collegiate" feel with a modern green and accent color called Bristol gray.

"As a community college, we are here to serve the educational needs and further the economic development of Bristol County. Through innovative curriculum and a top-rated education, we are also one of the leading higher education resources in Massachusetts. It was very important that our new brand reflects our mission and continues to represent the high-quality education and exceptional student experience offered at our college," said Joyce Brennan, Vice President of Marketing and Communications for the college. "At Bristol, a quality, affordable education is always within reach."



# BRISTOL

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE



## Bristol Online: Earn a Degree Anywhere, Anytime

Students have the choice to receive their education anywhere, anytime with **Bristol Online**. One of the largest online and digital learning programs in the area, Bristol Online offers a wide range of course options and degrees offered 100 percent online and in a hybrid (blended) format. Online courses are taught by the same on-campus instructors, bringing their valuable experience to both classrooms – virtual or on location. Bristol Online is also cost-efficient. Students can obtain their degree with great savings, then transfer or go straight into the workforce.

Virginia Cruz has a full-time job and a full-time family. She was able to work and go to school through a hybrid program. "I knew I needed an associate degree to move up in my career. Working a full-time job with a family made it feel impossible. I was able to make it work because I took some of my courses online. It was the perfect fit!"

Bristol Online offers students the flexibility to customize their experience to match their educational goals, learning styles and personal schedules – all while saving thousands of dollars.



➔ Learn more at [BristolCC.edu/Online](https://BristolCC.edu/Online)

# MassTransfer Student Models Success



**W**aleed Quddumi, of North Attleboro, graduated this spring with a business administration transfer degree. For Waleed, the achievement is dedicated to both his supportive parents, who are from Morocco and Palestine, and to his younger sister, for whom he aspires to be a role model.

While Waleed may not have always valued education in high school, he credits his parents' continuous reinforcement that "education translates to success" to his decision to enroll in the business administration transfer program at Bristol.

Enrolling at Bristol Community College's Attleboro Campus assisted Waleed's goals in several ways: he conveniently attended courses with smaller class sizes, near his home and was able to routinely meet one-on-one with academic advisors on location.

"In high school, I was the opposite of a model student. I was not focused on academics as much. I was getting Cs, Ds and mostly Fs. I graduated high school with a 1.6 GPA and I was not doing well. I felt as though I didn't need school," said Waleed. "When I first came here, my advisor was very helpful. She helped me register for all my classes and get set up the right way. The classes are a little bit smaller here than they were in high school, which gives the teacher the opportunity to focus more on the individual student. They really do see what you're doing and find ways to help you. The teachers here do want to see you succeed."

While enrolled at the college, Waleed quickly realized the value of both his educational journey and the hard work that was required to succeed. His newfound approach paid off as early as his first semester when he was included on Bristol's Dean's List with a 3.5 GPA.

"The MassTransfer program was really something that caught my eye when I came here. It was definitely the thing that sold me on this place. I realized that it made success seem possible and that it made the transfer from a community college to a four-year institution pretty much seamless," he said.

Waleed plans to attend the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Isenberg School of Management with the goal of becoming a financial advisor. He is excited to secure an internship and continue to show his parents and younger sister that anything is possible with hard work and determination.



HEAR MORE FROM WALEED AT  
[BristolCC.edu/Waleed](https://BristolCC.edu/Waleed)

# Bristol Experience Helps Student Overcome Challenges

**Jamard Jean-Pierre** has lived his educational experience by two words: perseverance and persistence. Jamard was born in Brockton, the son of Haitian immigrants, before settling in Taunton, where he graduated from high school in 2016. He credits his move to Taunton and the guidance he received at the Bristol Community College Taunton Center as the reason why he has been able to succeed.

In eighth grade, Jamard was considered an applied student, meaning that he was below academic level. To overcome this challenge, Jamard put in a lot of time and hard work studying and discovering what academic areas he was strong in as well as subjects that were more challenging. As a result of his efforts, Jamard strengthened his skills and

became prepared for the next leg of his journey.

Jamard's parents have always emphasized the value of higher education, so beginning college at Bristol became his next step towards success. Jamard credits Bristol's faculty and staff for helping him at every step of getting started at the college, from assistance completing the FAFSA form, academic advising and even making sure he had the correct books for each upcoming course. In addition to academics, Jamard also became engaged with Bristol's college community as a proud representative and speaker at one of the college's Black and African American Family Nights.

Jamard's guidance and experience at Bristol led him to earn his associate

degree in business administration transfer, celebrated at the college's Commencement ceremony this past June. He plans to acquire both a bachelor's and master's degree in finance before pursuing his goal of applying his expertise to music production and business.

"To people taking that step, who are a little hesitant to go to college, Bristol Community College is the perfect choice," said Jamard.



HEAR MORE FROM JAMARD AT  
[BristolCC.edu/Jamard](https://BristolCC.edu/Jamard)



# fast facts



# #1

in degrees & certificates conferred by a Massachusetts community college since FY08



# #3

among Massachusetts community colleges in full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment for FY17



# #14

out of 15 Massachusetts community colleges in state appropriation per FTE for FY18

# 95%

of our 2018 graduates are likely to recommend Bristol to others

# 16 to 1

ratio of Bristol students to faculty

♀ **63.0%** Female  
♂ **35.7%** Male

(Figures based on student self-reporting)



## 8 NJCAA PROGRAMS

Basketball (M/W), cross country (M/W), golf (M), outdoor track & field (W) and soccer (M/W)

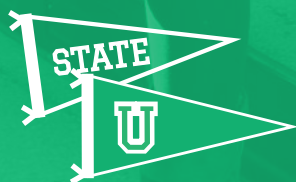
# 43%

of Bristol students are 21 & under



# 57%

of Bristol students are over 21



# 1,017

Bristol students transferred to...

# 144

colleges & universities nationwide in 2018



WITHIN  
REACH

## *Diversity, Equity & Inclusion*

Latino Family Night at  
Bristol's New Bedford  
Campus

A photograph of a woman with dark hair and glasses, wearing a patterned shirt and a beige cardigan, smiling and talking to a man in a blue hoodie. The man is seen in profile, looking towards the woman. They are in an indoor setting, possibly a hallway or meeting room.

# A Culture of Comm

**B**ristol Community College continues to make equity and equity-mindedness a top priority. The college is setting new equity-minded goals, investing in culturally competent practices and expanding its high-impact practices to increase the success of underserved students. In addition, the college has placed great emphasis on building a strategic enrollment management plan that addresses the need to reach out to students who are underrepresented in college.

One example is the hugely popular **Family Nights** that have taken place at the Fall River, New Bedford and Taunton locations. Bristol's Family Nights are a way to welcome and embrace the many cultures that make up the community. Each event is tailored for the audience that is being celebrated with food, entertainment and bilingual staff on hand to answer questions. There is also a panel of students who share their life and academic experiences with attendees and a chance to win a \$500 scholarship to the college. Recent Family Nights have highlighted the Asian, Black and African

American, Cape Verdean, Latino and Portuguese communities.

As of the beginning of July, the college had already begun seeing an increase of approximately 7 percent in minority applications and a 16 percent increase in registered minority students for the fall.

"We invite everyone to visit the college and learn what we can do for them and their families. These celebrations are a way for community members to find out what the college has to offer and reaffirm that everyone is welcome at Bristol," said President Laura L. Douglas, Ph.D. "Whether you come with plans to transfer, go directly into the workforce, learn English, earn your high school equivalency or learn a new skill, our work is to help students reach their goals and be successful in their lives."



Located on the Fall River Campus in the Commonwealth College Center (G Building), the **Multicultural Student Center** welcomes students of all cultures, identities and backgrounds. Through mentoring, advising and partnerships with the community, the center helps students at all of our locations succeed in and out of the classroom.

"I know first-hand the struggles of maintaining an education while balancing your off-campus life," said Robert Delaleu, Director of Multicultural Affairs. "The road is not easy, but having people who care and that are accessible can help you succeed and better navigate your college journey."

The center promotes greater awareness, understanding and appreciation for Bristol's and the world's growing diverse population. The Black Student Union, Latino Student Association, Asian Student Association, Cape Verdean Club, Multicultural Club and HERO Club (LGBTQIA+) are just some of the college clubs and organizations that the center collaborates with to help give students a presence and voice on campus.

"When students develop a personal relationship with the Bristol community through our center, it sets them on a path to achieve their goals," Delaleu said. "We also work to strengthen cultural competency and become a more inclusive social learning environment."

# unity

# Symbols of the Lost Childhoods

Bristol Community College's **Holocaust and Genocide Center**, along with the college's **Visual and Performing Arts Department**, unveiled a collaborative project that featured two large portraits depicting Holocaust victim and diarist Anne Frank and Holocaust survivor Stephan Ross, who is now 91 years old.

But these are no ordinary portraits. They are portraits created out of thousands of garment buttons collected as a symbol of the number of Jewish children who lost their lives during the Holocaust. The portraits are a mosaic of garment buttons in varying colors, sizes and shapes standing four feet tall. The striking collaborative artwork is displayed in the lobby of the Jackson Arts Center (H Building), on Bristol's Fall River Campus.

"It's important that now more than ever we educate people on the Holocaust and genocide to prevent those horrific events from happening again," said Ron Weisberger, Director of the Holocaust and Genocide Center. "This project helps to put in perspective just how many lives were lost. History has shown what happens when there is a lot of hate, and education and understanding provide people insight on how it can be avoided."

The project was initiated in 2017 in two phases and unveiled this past year. The first phase of the project focused on the goal of collecting 1.5 million buttons representing each child who died. Members of the college community and community organizations



have contributed greatly to the effort, sourcing nearly 600,000 buttons to date. Contributions have included middle school and local high school students from, among others, St. Joseph's School in Fairhaven, Fairhaven Middle School, Bishop Connolly High School and Bristol County Agricultural High School as well as donations from the Somerset Public Library and businesses such as the Portugalia Marketplace in Fall River.

The second phase of the project was the creation of the portraits through a collaboration between Weisberger and Marisa Millard, Chair of the Visual and Performing Arts Department, as well as fine arts students Michael Boulanger, Christine Maito Fitzgerald and Gabriella Giraud-Rodrigues; alumni Sal Carreiro and Stephanie White Christopher; art and design faculty members Erik Durant and Kat Knudsen; Grimshaw-Gudewicz Art Gallery Director Kathleen Hancock and staff assistant Shawn Elliot.

"When I became aware of how serious the project was, all I could hope was that I do their families proud," said Boulanger. "As I was working with the buttons, I could feel Anne Frank's family there, watching over my shoulder."

## in her own words

**Monique Onuoha '17** credits the Multicultural Student Center with helping her connect with people while she was at the college. "I didn't want to become a statistic. I grew up in a rough time and I wanted to overcome that, become successful and live a happy life... Without the center, I probably would have not done as well. Just meeting people and getting to know other people's struggles and having a connection with people that are similar to you, it helps a lot in your growth," she said. Monique is currently attending UMass Dartmouth.



# Nursing Dream Realized with Innovative Program



**B**ristol Community College teamed up with UMass Dartmouth to secure a grant that opens doors for under-represented groups in the medical profession.

Funded by a federal Nursing Workforce Diversity grant, the Diversity Nursing Scholars program brings more ethnic diversity into the nursing field, creating a workforce that better represents the community where patients receive their care. But the program also offers access to high-demand careers for those who could not otherwise afford a nursing degree.

Bristol provides a dedicated advisor who supports the students, helps prepare them for college work, complete the prerequisites and apply for our nursing program.

Just ask **Sandra Caceres**.

Caceres came to the United States from Honduras in 1989. She was 19 years old and could not speak English. But she learned the language and earned her General Education Degree (GED) while caring for her three daughters. Then she completed courses necessary to enter Bristol's highly ranked nursing program. Now she's working as a certified nursing assistant at Charlton Memorial Hospital in Fall River while she continues to attend classes at Bristol.

"It's been my lifelong dream, and as a child, I always dreamed of working in the medical field and enjoyed helping others. It became more apparent to me when my mother got sick. I wanted to be able to help her and understand medically what was wrong with her. Coming from a poor, third-world country, continuing my education was not within my reach," Caceres wrote

in her application to the program. "Trying to accomplish my dream of becoming a nurse, I've worked so hard to get accepted into the nursing program, and I am putting in all my best efforts."

She was accepted into the program in September 2018, and she's looking forward to becoming a registered nurse after graduating in 2020. Caceres says she will continue her journey to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing – something that would not have been possible without the Diversity Nursing Scholars program.



LEARN MORE AT  
[BristolCC.edu/Nursing](https://BristolCC.edu/Nursing)

WITHIN  
REACH

*Student  
Success*

# Success Stems From

Preparing for success:  
Toni Graca '19 planting  
beets at Bristol's  
Sustainable Agriculture  
garden on the Fall River  
Campus

Sometimes just giving students a chance at college isn't enough. That's why Bristol Community College strives to provide its students with the best chance at earning a college degree – surrounding them with layers of assistance to help them succeed.

That may mean career counseling, one-on-one tutoring, emotional support, language help or providing a range of learning opportunities outside the classroom. Faculty call it “inescapable support,” and a prime example is found in the reimagined Learning Commons.

Bristol already provides academic support at each Bristol location, but the facilities are being renovated and integrated with library services to locate all academic support in one



the model in place with great success. Simply put, the Learning Commons is a one-stop academic support center, where students can find help – even if they don't know whether they need a writing tutor or time with a research librarian.

“In the past, students seeking assistance for a specific subject might be

utilized the services said, “Tutors are available to help with just about every class taught at Bristol. This is really helpful whether you need one-on-one tutoring, have a quick question or want help with your resume or cover letter.”

The Learning Commons specifically addresses academic needs, while different support hubs may help students with registration, financial aid questions or other issues.

Argotsinger said there had been ideas about developing this kind of student support at Bristol, “but President Douglas was a strong proponent who pushed to make it happen. Under her leadership, the focus of staff was placed squarely on meeting student needs,” he said. “It's all about the efficiency of supporting students in their academic success.”

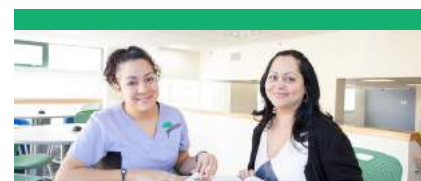
# Support

space. On the Fall River Campus, it will be in the Eileen T. Farley Learning Resources Center, and there are big plans for the other locations as well.

This past spring, Bristol's Attleboro Campus received a \$1 million donation toward a newly renovated space for their Learning Commons (see page 22) and the New Bedford Campus has plans to renovate next year. The Taunton Center already has

referred to a different location in a different building,” explained Chad Argotsinger, Ph.D., Chief of Staff for Academic Affairs. “Now, all the academic support services will be located in one physical place, where students can ask questions and the staff will work to deliver the precise help they need. We want to give them all the resources that they need to be successful.”

Miguel Tejada, a student who worked in the Learning Commons and



LEARN MORE AT  
[BristolCC.edu/LearningCommons](https://BristolCC.edu/LearningCommons)

# \$2.3M Federal Grant Funds Pathways to the Future

The award of the highly competitive Federal Title III grant promises a multimillion-dollar boost to help students achieve success in academics and in choosing the right career. The college received a \$2,248,379 federal grant, fully funding the new “Pathways to the Future” initiative, which will usher Bristol students through their learning journey in three distinct ways.

**Engaged Pathways** helps students achieve more during their time at Bristol, while helping them refine their choice of a major through the best practices of Guided Pathways to Success. In addition to receiving targeted orientation and engaging

in service-learning and high impact practices, students will be encouraged to explore areas of academic disciplines using two-semester meta-majors.

**Learning Commons**, Bristol’s physical and virtual hub for academic support, incorporates integrated tutoring, library services and support services to increase students’ use of campus resources. Following the example set by our Taunton Center, centralizing these services at Bristol’s Attleboro, Fall River and New Bedford Campuses will help students find critical support, ultimately improving academic success and graduation rates.

**Inescapable Support** provides wraparound academic assistance through accelerated on-ramps – nationally known practices that help students complete developmental education in less time. Students will also receive coaching, case management and an integrated early alert system to offer continuous support.

The grant will provide approximately \$450,000 to Bristol annually for five years under the U.S. Department of Education’s Title III Strengthening Institutions Program and will enable the college to continue its legacy of implementing best practices, innovative technology and proactive student support to advance student achievement and retention.

## Theatre at Bristol Shines in Spotlight

When students in Bristol’s **Theatre program** took the stage at Bristol Community College’s Margaret L. Jackson Performing Arts Center last November, the performance was a complete original.

*The God That You Serve* was a student-created production, from the acting and set design to the script, which even drew on elements from the Book of Job, according to the program’s Artistic Director David Ledoux.

“We all created it together. This feels like our show. It’s pretty amazing,” said Rebecca Tavares, theatre major.

Amazing, yes. And it’s an example of the myriad choices students can find at Bristol. Bristol’s revitalized associate degree program in theatre provides hands-on training and experience, allowing

students to learn and refine their craft, literally as they perform.

Classes include acting, playwriting, stagecraft, voice production and more. Plus, Bristol Community College participates in the statewide MassTransfer program, so students can smoothly transfer to a four year institution or seek work in the performing arts after graduating.

“Studying theatre teaches history, literature, art, humanity and the world, experientially. Theatre also provides interpersonal communication skills, empathy and abstract and concrete problem-solving skills. Students who participate in our productions, both back stage and onstage, create friendships and connections that help them with overall academic success,” said Ledoux.

➔ Learn more at [BristolCC.edu/Theatre](https://BristolCC.edu/Theatre)



## Centers of Attention

Doors are opening at Bristol with three new centers focused on student support and success.

The Bristol **Women's Center** was dedicated in March 2019 bringing specialized education, workshops, training and discussion groups that empower women and welcome the entire community. The **Joseph A. Marshall Veterans Center** opened in May 2018 providing a central place for Bristol's military veterans to seek career counseling, get help in applying for benefits, access mental health counseling or just to study and socialize. These centers, along with the **Student Health Center**, are located in a newly renovated section of the Thomas A. Rodgers Jr. Science Building (E Building) on Bristol's Fall River Campus.

In addition to raising awareness about domestic violence, single parenting and other issues central to women's well-being, the Women's Center is a place where students and community members can find books, DVDs and printed materials on women's issues. The center also provides private and group counseling sessions with a trained professional, making referrals to community organizations for survivors of sexual violence. Of the state's 15 community colleges, only three

offer a women's center – Greenfield, Massasoit and Bristol.

The Veterans Center, meanwhile, provides an important resource for those who have served in the military and are now looking ahead to successful civilian lives. At last year's dedication ceremony, state Rep. Alan Silvia, a Bristol alumnus and Vietnam veteran who helped secure funding for the facility, said returning veterans often look to community colleges for their education, and they want a school that understands veterans' needs.

The Veterans Center was named in honor of Marshall, former chairman of the Bristol Board of Trustees, a Vietnam veteran and also a Bristol alumnus, for his work in bringing the center to Bristol and his service to his country, this community and the college.

Rounding out the services offered in this space is the Student Health Center, which provides basic medical care, first aid, consultations and referrals to outside agencies. The center also hosts programming and resources to maximize students' health and well-being, including family planning outreach, substance use screening and substance abuse counseling.



When students encounter problems with classwork, family, friends or just adjusting to college, Bristol Community College has a team to help.

**The CARE Team**, launched in the fall of 2018, stands for Concern, Assessment, Referral and Evaluation, and it follows a protocol for identifying problems and getting students the help they need. Faculty and staff (or fellow students) who notice attendance issues, a drop in grades, sleeping in class or other signs of possible personal problems can bring their concerns to the CARE team, who are there to help.

"In its first year, the CARE Team worked with more than 600 Bristol students," said Michael Bensink, Director of Student Wellness. "A solution might be as simple as getting money for bus fares because a student's car broke down. Or there might be emotional issues, family problems or personal struggles, in which case a student could be offered the option of counseling." He emphasized that student confidentiality is paramount and that faculty and staff have been extremely supportive.

The funding for the project comes through the generosity of donors who have donated to the Bristol Community College Foundation's CARE Fund. "We are grateful that financial support is available to cover the costs of student emergency needs," he said. "The ultimate purpose is to help students to find the most appropriate solutions to their problems and to get back to their goal of succeeding academically."

WITHIN  
REACH

*Looking  
Forward*

A photograph of several offshore wind turbines in the ocean at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with a few clouds. The water is dark and choppy. The turbines are silhouetted against the bright sky. One turbine is in the foreground on the left, and another is on the right. Several others are visible in the distance.

# Leading the Winds of

**B**ristol Community College is committed to building tomorrow's workforce by anticipating developments in the region's economy and working closely with business leaders to ensure that students – prospective employees – have the required skills and are in alignment with industry needs.

The college's **Workforce Education Institute** (WEI) is currently working with nearly a dozen companies to provide training through the state's Workforce Training Fund program. Bristol provides customized training programs to a wide range of industries including Acushnet Company, the Fairhaven-based company best known for Titleist golf balls, and to Joseph Abboud, an international clothing manufacturing company in New Bedford. Bristol provides these custom programs built around the needs of companies.

WEI is further expanding its scope under the leadership of President Laura L. Douglas, Ph.D. The college's

advanced safety training, technical training and customized training programs, specific to the offshore wind industry and its supply chain.

"Offshore wind promises to be an important new employer in the region, with the nation's first utility-sized offshore wind farms under construction about 25 miles from the coast and more planned in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey," said Jennifer Menard, Interim Vice President of External Affairs.

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates 43,000 new jobs will be created in the offshore wind market by 2030. The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center recently published an assessment of the jobs and economic impacts associated with the development of 1,600 megawatts in Massachusetts. That study estimated that within the next decade, offshore wind farms will create nearly 3,000 jobs and generate economic impacts between \$1.2B and \$2.1B in the region.

One example of a customized training program is the partnership between Bristol and JDR Cables, part of the TFKable Group. The innovative collaboration that was launched this spring will train the future workforce in cabling and fiber optics for the global offshore wind industry. The agreement calls for Bristol to train employees of JDR, which will apply for grants jointly with Bristol, offer student internships and sponsor STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) programs for elementary, middle and high school students in the region.

"Well-trained technicians are an integral part of the offshore construction team. Conducting the delicate operations associated with fiber optics and the precision needed for electrical termination is challenging in the most benign conditions," said Neil Brown, Business Development Manager at JDR. "When you combine this with the demanding offshore environment, the requirement to have competent, experienced and dedicated technicians is critical to the success of the entire wind farm installation."

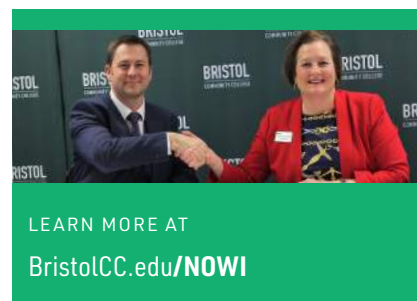
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*Continued on page 18*

# Change

establishment of the **National Offshore Wind Institute** (NOWI) serves the emerging offshore wind energy sector and has become one of WEI's highest priorities. NOWI will deliver required Global Wind Organisation (GWO) basic and

"Importantly, Bristol will provide the needed training focused on safety that all workers need for offshore wind. Also, Bristol is working to build customized training for the supply chain in the U.S.," Menard said.



The foundation of this exciting collaborative partnership was established in February 2018, when President Douglas participated in the US-UK Offshore Wind Ports & Supply Chain Delegation at the invitation of the British Embassy in Washington, D.C. She joined a delegation comprised of business executives, organized labor representatives and state and local officials from Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey and Rhode Island.

The delegation's itinerary included meetings with JDR Cables, among many others, and highlighted the UK's experience developing a successful offshore wind sector on a commercial scale. The visit also included presentations about best practices in offshore wind that have led to significant social and economic benefits in the UK. The delegation also visited offshore wind manufacturing companies, training facilities for workforce development, ports in Hull and Grimsby, and JDR's cable manufacturing facility in Hartlepool, England, which is utilized for the development of offshore wind farms.

Last year, Bristol, UMass Dartmouth and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy signed a Connect4Wind agreement to work together for training and research. The academic partners will bring their unique expertise to the table with the commitment to share research, academic faculty and educational training facilities to encourage efficiency and the fiscally responsible utilization of resources. The agreement further underscores the institutions' shared

commitment to the advancement of the region's offshore wind energy sector and the Blue Economy.

Bristol currently offers the United States' only associate degree program in offshore wind power technology, as well as a certificate to become an offshore wind power technician. The United States currently lacks a trained workforce of offshore wind technicians needed to provide operations and maintenance for wind turbines that are nearly as tall as Boston's 60-story John Hancock tower.

Bristol's efforts are being supported by the state's investment into this growing, nascent industry. The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center recently awarded Bristol \$200,000 to achieve GWO accreditation and shape a comprehensive safety and customized offshore wind training program.

Menard is working with both developers and supply chain companies to ensure that Bristol develops NOWI hand-in-hand with industry demands. NOWI will provide offshore wind companies with assistance in the U.S. and help identify workforce gaps and needs.

"Bristol will be ready to support the developers and their supply chain companies with GWO safety, technical and customized training," Menard said. "With the number of wind farms that we know are coming, we know there will be a great deal of demand, and we are prepared to meet the need."

## *in the news*

Bristol student and veteran **Joseph Massi** was recently quoted in a BBC News story sharing why he chose a path in offshore wind power. "It's the new future. It's where everything is going to be, the growth potential, especially in Massachusetts," Massi told the BBC. "Once it starts booming in the United States, that's going to be where you'll want to be."



# ***New Substance Abuse Counseling Program Fills Critical Need***

The new Substance Abuse Counseling program serves a dual role – preparing students for high-demand jobs while addressing a critical community need.

In the midst of a national opioid epidemic, the Massachusetts Board of Substance Abuse Counseling reports a crisis in recruiting and training qualified help. The need is even greater in New Bedford, Taunton and Fall River, where demand for substance abuse counselors is expected to grow by more than 40 percent at residential treatment facilities alone.

"This is an issue nationwide, but southeastern Massachusetts has one of the biggest problems with opioids and substance abuse, in general, in the state," said Bruce Frazer LMHC, Program Coordinator.

Bristol's certificate program, which is taught by practitioners in the field, began in 2017 at the Fall River Campus and expanded last year to New Bedford and Taunton. The number of students has doubled, and Frazer said he receives two to three inquiries a week, often from individuals whose families have been touched by substance abuse or behavioral health

issues. The first online courses will begin in Fall 2019 with hope to expand in Spring 2020.

Students can earn a certificate of achievement in substance abuse counseling with ten courses totaling 29 credits and two internships with additional credits. When finished, students are prepared for the state exam. They become fully certified substance abuse counselors after working 2,000 hours in the field, which can include advising those suffering from alcoholism, drug addiction, eating disorders or other substance abuse and behavioral problems, working at inpatient and outpatient facilities, as well as in case management and education and prevention.

Frazer said the program earned Department of Mental Health approval in April. Now, he is working to pair up with other Bristol programs so students can earn their associate degree in human services, psychology or related fields while pursuing their certificate. He also wants to make it easier to transfer to Bridgewater State University, Lesley University and other four-year schools.

➔ Learn more at [BristolCC.edu/SubstanceAbuseCounseling](https://BristolCC.edu/SubstanceAbuseCounseling)

# ***Security in the Cyber Age***

As sophisticated cyberattacks cause increasing harm to businesses, schools and government computer systems, the demand for cyber security experts is rising. Bristol's Cyber Security program is helping to meet the need.

Bristol students can earn an Associate of Science in computer information systems, with a concentration in cyber security and digital forensics, which prepares them for high-demand jobs in the growing field. Students also can transfer from Bristol to a four-year institution to pursue a bachelor's degree in cyber security.

In addition to filling a critical need in New England's high-tech industries, the Cyber Security program provides graduates with the promise of high-paying, in-demand jobs. Qualified cyber security professionals make an average of \$96,185 a year, according to a December 2018 Census report. Cyber security is another example of how Bristol responds to industry needs.



# A Pilgrimage for Scholarships

**C**lifford Clement '73 walked hundreds of miles along the Portuguese Camino this spring, his sixth holy pilgrimage, to raise money for Bristol Community College's **Helaine Schupack Endowed Scholarship**.

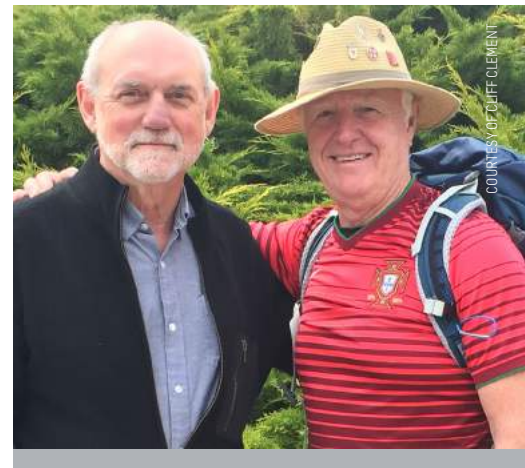
The scholarship was established last year by his friend and former Bristol classmate, **Alan Lizotte, Ph.D.**, in honor of the instructor at the college who changed his life decades ago.

Clement and Lizotte met at Bristol in the early 1970s after they both returned from the Vietnam War. "I was in the same boat as many students when I came home from Vietnam," Clement said. "The GI Bill only went so far, and I had to work to support myself."

Lizotte was in a similar situation, making suitcases at American Tourister while he studied. He wrote a student essay recounting the time his Naval unit captured and interrogated a North Vietnamese swimmer during the war. His commander ordered Lizotte to kill the prisoner if he tried to escape.

"It was a shattering paper," said Schupack, who assigned the essay to Lizotte as a teacher of English literature and writing.

She helped Lizotte transfer to Brown University after just a year at Bristol. He went on to a career in academics and served as dean and distinguished professor of criminology at the University at Albany, State University of New York. He recounted how when he returned to the area he realized he



had never adequately thanked Helaine for all she did for him.

"Helaine didn't impact my life," Lizotte said. "She changed my life."

To thank her, Lizotte endowed his scholarship with \$21,000, along with a donation from Schupack herself. Clement said the scholarship is dear to his heart because he knows how difficult it is for students financially. The scholarship provides support to a full-time student with preference given to an adult learner over the age of 22.

So, between May 26 and June 17, Clement completed his journey to add to the endowment. He started at Porto, Portugal, and walked approximately 15 to 20 miles per day until he arrived in Santiago de Compostela in north-west Spain. He believes his pilgrimages have transformed his life. "I now live with gratitude," he said.

Alumni or members of the community who want to support Clement's effort can donate to the Helaine Schupack Scholarship by calling the Foundation at 774.357.2007 or by visiting **BristolCC.edu/Donate**.

LEFT:  
Helaine Schupack

TOP RIGHT:  
Alan Lizotte, left, and  
Cliff Clement

# Raising Money for Bristol Success

The Bristol Community College Foundation has been sustaining the college's mission through fundraising for nearly 40 years.

Two years ago, the Foundation raised \$13 million for the John J. Sbrega Health & Science Building and other support for the Fall River Campus. It is currently leading a \$2.5 million campaign for Attleboro Campus improvements, including the new Learning Commons. And a New Bedford Campus capital drive is being planned to help enable the establishment of training centers for advanced manufacturing and offshore wind energy.

With \$20 million under management, the Foundation will provide \$980,000 for programs and equipment in fiscal 2020. In addition, it will offer a record-breaking \$430,000 in scholarships, as well as more than \$100,000 in grants for faculty and staff.

"Students struggle to keep up academically while working long hours to stay afloat," said Tom Murray CPA, Foundation President. "That is why we are so grateful to those who support the Foundation. This support is key to helping the students and the college be successful."

The Foundation also helps students stay in school with a \$50,000 emergency fund. Half of Bristol students come from households earning \$30,000 or less, and without assistance they are at risk of dropping out when life happens - a car breaks down or a child gets sick.



LEARN MORE AT  
[BristolCC.edu/Foundation](http://BristolCC.edu/Foundation)

Since 2012, the Bristol Community College Foundation has contributed **\$11.9 million** in total support to the college

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**\$3.7 million**  
was given to support the college

**48**  
faculty and staff  
received grants



**241**  
students received  
scholarships

**114**  
students received  
emergency loans



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**94%**  
of every dollar raised goes directly  
to Bristol Community College and  
Bristol students



## New Learning Commons for Attleboro Campus

Students on Bristol's Attleboro Campus will soon be getting a new resource for academic support, thanks to a \$1 million gift from the Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Charitable Foundation, the largest gift in the Attleboro Campus' history. This gift marks the launch of Attleboro's Capital Campaign set to raise \$2.5 million to add much-needed services to the campus.

The new Learning Commons will provide a centralized hub for academic support, allowing students to meet with advisors, work one-on-one with a tutor, connect with a reference librarian, or gather with classmates to study.

"The college is very grateful to the Stoico/FIRSTFED Charitable Foundation for its tremendous support. The Library Learning Commons gift will enable Bristol to provide our Attleboro students with direct access to innovative learning resources and support services," said President Laura L. Douglas, Ph.D. "Bristol's Foundation plays a crucial role in securing funding for projects that would otherwise not be able to happen. This is a great benefit to our students and our community."

Stoico/FIRSTFED Charitable Foundation is the second largest donor to the college, generously donating \$1 million to the Fall River Campus for a business and technology center in 2007.

Cecilia Viveiros is Stoico/FIRSTFED Foundation's Executive Director and an alumna of Bristol Community College. "Founder Robert F. Stoico served as chairman, president and CEO of FIRSTFED America Bancorp, Inc. for more than 30 years, during which time the financial services company grew to more than 40 locations throughout New England and the Mid-Atlantic states," she noted. "While the financial services company eventually merged in 2004, Stoico maintained the charitable foundation to continually enhance those communities that contributed to the success of the company."

Stoico said his foundation made the donation because Attleboro has always been special to him, from his days at First Federal Savings and Loans, while Bristol is a school he has always supported. "Bristol Community College is a very special place to me," Stoico said. "There is a

big need for this type of resource in the community."

Existing support programs at Bristol's Attleboro Campus have been successful in reaching students and improving retention and graduation rates. Co-locating the resources in one place will make it easier to connect students with the assistance they need.

Creating a centralized Learning Commons will make it easier for students to get timely assistance and be instantly connected to the resources they need. It's part of the school's philosophy of surrounding students with "wraparound services" from enrollment to graduation.

"It is our goal to raise the remaining \$1.5 million in the coming year so that construction on the Attleboro Learning Commons can begin before the end of 2020," President Douglas said.

If you would like to donate to the Bristol Attleboro Capital Campaign, please visit [BristolCC.edu/Donate](http://BristolCC.edu/Donate) or call the Foundation at 774.357.2007.

Bristol is extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated and generous community of supporters. Since 2016, over 1,200 donors have contributed to the Foundation, helping the college continue its work putting life-changing opportunities within reach. On behalf of the faculty, staff and students of Bristol: Thank you!

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Bristol Community College has been accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE) since 1970. As of August 1, 2018, the CIHE-NEASC became an independent corporation called the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

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# BRISTOL

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## COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Bristol Community College  
777 Elsbree Street  
Fall River, MA 02720

## *about us*

Since its chartering in 1965, Bristol Community College has been changing the world by changing lives, learner by learner. Bristol Community College is where people from diverse backgrounds turn to earn a degree, access work-related training and expand their cultural and intellectual horizons.

Bristol Community College is a comprehensive community college offering more than 130 career and transfer programs of study that lead to an associate degree in science, arts and applied sciences, as well as certificates of accomplishment or achievement. Students are able to transfer to many baccalaureate colleges throughout the state and country from any of our convenient locations in Attleboro, Fall River, New Bedford and Taunton, as well as online.

As the leading resource for education and workforce development in southeastern Massachusetts, Bristol Community College provides programs that promote individual opportunity and the region's economic health. Our programs offer a strong foundation in liberal arts and sciences; career-ready education in health sciences, engineering, technology and business; and comprehensive developmental education and adult literacy services delivered in a learner centered, supportive community.

Bristol Community College also develops active partnerships with business and industry, preK-12, colleges and universities, and social service agencies to maintain relevance and effectiveness of all credit and noncredit programming. We value and respect diversity within the college and the world. Bristol Community College prepares well-rounded learners for employment and for life.

