

MEET OUR NEW FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES FALL 2019



Housatonic
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



ROPA BEGUM MEDIA SPECIALIST

Ropa holds an undergrad degree in Management Information System (MIS) from Southern Connecticut State University. From 2008-2012 she was a student worker at Gateway Community College. Upon completing her Associates Degree, Ropa was offered a part-time job in 2012 as an Educational Technology Assistant at GCC. She left that assistant position in 2018 and joined HCC as a full-time Media Specialist.

Ropa is a very hardworking person. She speaks three different languages, loves watching movies, enjoys doing outdoor activities and loves taking photographs.



DR. ADELL BROWN, JR. INTERIM DEAN OF ADMINISTRATION AND INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Adell Brown recently retired as Executive Vice Chancellor for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center – Southern University A&M System after 40 years of service. Brown previously served as Vice President for Planning, Research, and Development for Mississippi Valley State University. Brown has published extensively in professional journals, books and other media outlets in areas of agricultural and rural development with emphases on enhancing opportunities for farm families with small-land holdings and addressing assiduous poverty in rural communities.

Adell Brown is actively involved with helping to improve the Greater Baton Rouge Area. Much of his community service work is through the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge, and the Greater Baton Rouge Pan Hellenic Council. Brown serves as vice president of the National Sigma Beta Foundation's Board of Directors. He is an active worker in the First Mount Zion Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He serves as project director of Collective Healing Initiative for the 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge.

A native of Gilbert, Louisiana, Brown earned a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business from Northeast Louisiana State University, a MBA from University of Southwest Louisiana and doctorate of philosophy degree in Agricultural Economics from Louisiana State University.

Brown is married to Doris Gray Brown; they have three daughters; Brandy, Ashley and Adele; and one grandson, Taylor Brown.



RACHEL CAIN INSTRUCTOR OF BIOLOGY

Since 2006, Rachel has been part of the Math/Science teaching team at HCC. Last academic year, she served as "STEAM Initiatives Coordinator" organizing HCC's STEAMfest 18 and STEAM Research Abroad in Honolulu, HI.

Her studies in the 90's earned her a State of Connecticut teaching certification in Secondary Education, specializing in Biology. Prior to teaching at HCC, she was a full-time Teacher at Fairfield Ludlowe High School where she earned tenure in addition to the achievement of "Highly Qualified Teacher" as evaluated by the Connecticut State Department of Education.

She now has her M.S. in Biology and is celebrating her twentieth year in education having come alongside thousands of students as they learned not only about science, but also themselves.

Her passion is the implementation of discovery-learning in lab settings where students can research and learn through inquiry.

When not at HCC, Rachel is likely to be found volunteering in classrooms where her three young children are at school.



KRISTY JELENIK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Kristy joined the Housatonic Community College Foundation as its executive director in July 2019. Kristy will lead the Foundation's efforts to support HCC's goals of encouraging students to take part in programs and pathways to associate and bachelor degrees, as well as those that provide them with the knowledge and experience to enter the workplace post-graduation. Kristy and the Foundation staff focus on securing funding to award student scholarships, book and emergency funds, and fund college programs and initiatives such as the Art Museum, AMTC, STEAM, Venture Lab, and the Men's Center.

Prior to HCC, Kristy was Vice President of Development at Fairfield County's Community Foundation for six years. She was responsible for leading the Community Foundation's development efforts to grow revenue in order to sustain and expand its Community Impact efforts throughout the County. She worked closely with Foundation donors, fund holders and partners to help execute their charitable giving and introduce them to new opportunities to make an impact with their philanthropy. Kristy has spent nearly 20 years in public sector leadership and fund development roles in New York and Connecticut and brings a variety of experience in major gift, corporate and foundation fundraising, board development, strategic planning and donor communications. Kristy provided development consulting services for the Public Service Scholars Program at Hunter College-CUNY, and is a Leadership Development Roundtable (LDR) Fellow alum. Kristy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of South Carolina and a Master's Degree in Urban Affairs and Planning from Hunter College-CUNY. She is an active volunteer in Fairfield where she lives with her two children and husband.

**JEFFREY JOHNSON** ACADEMIC ASSOCIATE MATH/SCIENCE DEPT.

Jeff Johnson brings a wealth of science knowledge and experience to our Math & Science Department as an Academic Associate. He has a B.S. in Chemistry from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (1991). Most of his career was spent as a research chemist in the pharmaceutical industry, pursuing drug substances for the treatment of cancer and diabetes. Thereafter, Jeff acquired his teaching certification in general science, chemistry, and biology. He spent 8 years teaching in New Haven, North Haven and other school districts before coming to HCC.

**"Fun fact: I have a tattoo of DNA with my children's names and birth dates in it.
I am totally into science!"**

**AIMEE MARCHETTI** INSTRUCTOR OF ENGLISH

Aimee Marchetti is an Instructor of English in the First Year Studies Department at Housatonic Community College. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Arizona State University with an emphasis on Native American and Women's literature. She also completed her minor studies in philosophy. After working as a copy editor and proofreader in the business world, Aimee decided to pursue education and become a teacher. She completed her Master of Arts degree in Education, Teaching, and Curriculum at Fairfield University. After writing her Master's Comprehensive Essay on Multiculturalism in Education, Aimee was invited by Fairfield University to sit on a panel discussion about this important topic. Aimee has taught English in both the Weston and North Haven public school systems where a great deal of her teaching and development was focused on writing. Aimee joined HCC as an adjunct English instructor in 2011 teaching Intro to College Reading and Intro to College Writing. She is thrilled to join the staff as a full-time lecturer this year.

When not teaching at HCC, Aimee loves to read, practice Pilates, and attend Broadway shows. She and her husband have three children and a dog and enjoy spending time on Cape Cod.

**TATIANA RAMPINO** WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & CONTINUING ED. COORDINATOR

A Trumbull resident for 31 years, a wife and a mother of two boys with a culturally bilingual background, Tatiana has over 14 years of experience in higher education, focusing on developing professional program and career pathway opportunities.

Tatiana served for 5-years as the Vice President on the Board of Directors for St. Vincent's Medical Center Credit Union, and is certified as a State Elections Moderator, receiving a Public Service Award from the Secretary of State of Connecticut. She also held a position for two years as the Treasurer for the Trumbull Nature Commission and currently serves as Commissioner on Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of Trumbull. In her spare time, Tatiana volunteers for the United Way, WI-Mentoring Program to mentor a high school student throughout their senior academic year. As part of the college-wide initiative in collaboration with the Bridgeport Board of Education/Bassick High School, Tatiana developed and coordinated the "Healthcare Career and College Readiness Program" (HCCRP) at St. Vincent's College.

As one of her accomplishments, Tatiana was recommended by the President/CEO of St. Vincent's College and President/ CEO of St. Vincent's Medical Center to complete a one-year Ascension Health Accelerated Development National Program (AHADP) and has completed a Master's in Business Administration Degree from Capella University.

**COLETTE ROSSIGNOL** DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Since 2004, Colette has worked in higher education, most recently as an Education Technologist at Sacred Heart University's Center for Excellence in Innovation and Teaching (CEIT). She has her Master of Arts in Teaching and Master of Arts in Communication.

When away from HCC, Colette spends her time volunteering in Bridgeport, listening to music and watching sports.



LISA SLADE DIRECTOR OF COUNSELING & WELLNESS

Lisa Slade is a nationally certified and licensed professional counselor in the state of Connecticut. She is a graduate of the Master's in Counseling Program at the University of Bridgeport. Lisa also received her therapeutic training in Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy (REBT) from the Albert Ellis Institute in New York. Lisa has studied multi-cultural counseling abroad at the University of Northampton in North Hampton, England, as well as in Paris, France and Egypt.

Lisa Slade is currently the Director of Counseling and Wellness at Housatonic Community College. Prior to her most recent position, Lisa Slade became the first Mental Health Counselor in the Connecticut Community College system at Norwalk Community College.

Lisa is also an adjunct professor in the Human Services Programs at Housatonic Community College and the University of Bridgeport. She has also taught as an adjunct professor at Caldwell College's Graduate School of Counseling Psychology in Caldwell, NJ.

Lisa is also the co-author of the NCE – National Counselor Exam, Practice Exam Kit (available on test.com and amazon).

Lisa also operates a private therapy practice, New Vision Consultants LLC, where she works with individuals, couples, families and agencies providing therapeutic counseling and consultation services.

Lisa is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In her spare time, she enjoys, cooking, traveling, belly dancing, boxing, and currently holds a Brown belt in Tae Kwon Do. HADP). She has completed a Master of Business Administration Degree from Capella University.



MICHAEL WASIK GRAPHICS SPECIALIST

Michael comes to HCC with over 17 years of experience in the graphic arts field, as well as a degree in graphic design from SCSU. He worked as a designer for several companies in Connecticut before starting at HCC in May of 2019.

Outside of HCC, Michael has a passion for fine art/illustration.

NOT PICTURED

MONSERRATE FELICIANO CHILD DEVELOPMENT TEACHER

GEORGE SCOBIE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR

ROBERT ZUKOWSKI INSTRUCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION: ECONOMICS & FINANCE

