

MARY L. FIFIELD, PhD

President Emerita, Bunker Hill Community College

Dr. Fifield has committed more than forty-five years to serving community colleges with posts ranging from Academic Vice President and Dean of Instruction to Department Chair and faculty member. For two decades she served as President, first at Bunker Hill Community College in Boston, MA, and later at Harrisburg Area Community College in Harrisburg, PA. Under her leadership each institution received recognition for promoting equity and opportunity for persons of color and women by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT).

Mary's strengths include institutional transformation, financial management, and strategic planning. She has led massive assessments and revamped college finances, the physical plant, human resources, organizational structures, and the teaching and learning process. Her accomplishments include creating highly effective cyclical strategic planning processes involving public and private sector interests in conjunction with faculty, staff, and students.



She is a former member of the Board and Executive Committee of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). She has served on the Massachusetts Governor's Leadership Transition Team for Higher Education and the Commonwealth's Workforce Investment Board. She has extensive experience with accreditation standards: first serving as an evaluator in the areas of organizational development and institutional effectiveness for the North Central (now Higher Learning Commission), Middle States and New England accrediting bodies, and later as one of the 18 Commissioners of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) responsible for validating standard compliance of colleges and universities in New England.

Her record of public service, publications, and presentations is extensive. She has given testimony before numerous state and federal legislative committees, including presentations as a representative of AACC.

She holds a B.A. from Clarke College, an M.F.A. from Pratt Institute, and a Ph.D. from Saint Louis University. Currently, Dr. Fifield works with community colleges across the country as an Achieving the Dream Leadership Coach assisting colleges in increasing student success and completion. She is also a member of the CampusWorks Executive Advisory Board.