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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEGHAN ABELLA-BOWEN NAMED ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEW BEDFORD CAMPUS

Meghan Abella-Bowen of East Taunton, Mass., has been named associate dean of the Bristol Community College New Bedford campus. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science, with a minor in Spanish, at the California State Polytechnic University, in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and a Master of Science in Agricultural Education: Program Development and Evaluation at Texas A&M University, in College Station, Texas.

An employee of Bristol Community College for more than ten years, Meghan is well known throughout the community as a strong academic champion. In 2007, she was hired as the director of the *National Science Foundation (NSF) Sustainability and Green Energy* project, a position she held until 2011, when she transitioned into leading the college's *Southeastern Massachusetts Achievement and Retention in Technology* NSF-funded project. In 2014, Meghan became BCC's associate dean for STEM Initiatives, where she oversaw the *STEM Starter Academy*, *ABLE4STEM* and *Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP)* projects, established a STEM industry panel speaker series, regional Vex Robotics Competition and the *Women in STEM Challenge* events.

Through her time at Bristol, Meghan has been at the forefront of many student-centric initiatives including *STEM Career Days*, *Career Connection Workshop* and drop-In-tutoring programs, collaborating with science faculty to create undergraduate research opportunities and assisted with the creation of the *STEM* and *Women in STEM* clubs. Meghan has received the college's *Silver Shield Award* (2008) and Phi Theta Kappa Recognition Award (2014) in recognition for her outstanding work supporting our students' success.

As associate dean of the BCC New Bedford campus, Abella-Bowen will oversee and

foster the sustainable growth of the New Bedford campus and its academic offerings. She will assist the day-to-day management and administrative oversight of all programs, services, staffing, and budgeting related to the operation of the multi-building, urban campus located in the heart of downtown New Bedford.

She will begin her duties as the associate dean of the BCC New Bedford campus on July 30, 2018.

About Bristol Community College

Bristol Community College is a leading resource for education and workforce development in Southeastern Massachusetts. BCC has locations in Fall River, Attleboro, New Bedford, and Taunton, along with flexible online offerings that lead to an associate degree, a career-ready certificate, or the ability to seamlessly transfer to baccalaureate colleges throughout the state and country.

The College's Center for Workforce and Community Education provides customized training for businesses and the community including healthcare, workforce and sustainable initiatives, and corporate services.

The BCC Foundation, a non-profit organization utilizing community donations and partnerships, supports the College's mission to meet the lifelong educational needs of the community. For more information, visit <http://www.bristolcc.edu/about>.