

# **GOVERNOR PATRICK APPOINTED STACEY LUSTER AS CHAIR OF QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

BOSTON – Friday, October 19, 2012 – Governor Deval Patrick today appointed experienced education management professional Stacey Luster as Chair of the Board of Trustees at Quinsigamond Community College.

The Governor’s community college plan, supported by the Legislature and included in the FY13 budget, calls for the Governor to appoint the Chair of the Board of Trustees at each community college. This plan will create a more integrated, effective community college system that is responsive to both local and statewide employer needs by giving community colleges additional capacity to expand their efforts to provide students with high-quality, relevant educational and training programs. This plan will also help strengthen the connections between our campuses, our employers, and our workforce so that students of all ages have the opportunity to succeed.

“Our community colleges are at the center of our efforts to close the skills gap and help people get back to work in Massachusetts,” said Governor Patrick. “I want to thank Ms. Luster for her willingness to serve in this capacity and am confident that she will be a critical partner in our collective efforts to better serve our students and employers, building a stronger Commonwealth for generations to come.”

Stacey Luster currently serves as the Human Resources Manager for the Worcester Public Schools and is also an adjunct professor for the College of the Holy Cross, on Urban Education Law. As WPS’s Human Resources Manager, Ms. Luster coordinates the recruitment, selection, evaluation and discipline of over 4,000 employees; coordinates the labor relations and contract negotiations of 13 collective bargaining agreements; and represents Worcester Public Schools at various legal proceedings. She previously served as the Assistant Human Resource Manager for Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action at Worcester Public Schools and the Assistant to the President at Quinsigamond Community College. Ms. Luster was elected to two terms on the Worcester City Council between the years 1997 and 2000 and also served for six years as the Director for the Worcester Business Development Corporation. Ms. Luster earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint John’s University in New York, a Juris Doctorate from Boston University School of Law and completed the Executive Leadership Program for Educators at Harvard University. Ms. Luster has served as a member of the Board of Trustees at Quinsigamond Community College for five years and is filling the chair position previously held by Ronald Josephson.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to contribute to the educational needs of our community as the Board Chair of Quinsigamond Community College,” said Ms. Luster. “I look forward to working to ensure that Quinsigamond Community College continues to meet the ever increasing and changing demands of our community.”

“Trustee Luster has been a member of the Quinsigamond Community College Board for five years and her commitment to the work of the College is evident even prior to her appointment as a Trustee,” said

Quinsigamond Community College President Gail Carberry. “She knows well the vital role this College plays in her home community and I look forward to working with her as we advance QCC’s academic mission and services.”

Delivering on the goals of his community college plan, Governor Patrick recently awarded community colleges a total of \$4 million in grants to support increased skill training and workforce alignment, improved student learning outcomes and efficiency measures at campuses across the Commonwealth. These grants will give campuses the additional capacity they need to promote higher completion rates of degrees and certificates, be more responsive to the needs of local economies as well as of the state’s fastest growing sectors and adopt a system-wide standard core of course offerings. Quinsigamond Community College received \$136,481 for an initiative called “shorten the distance” that supports both students’ readiness for college and student success at the College once admitted.

To learn more about the Governor’s community college plan visit <http://www.mass.gov/governor/agenda/education/>.