

Spring 2017

BHCC

Bunker Hill Community College Magazine

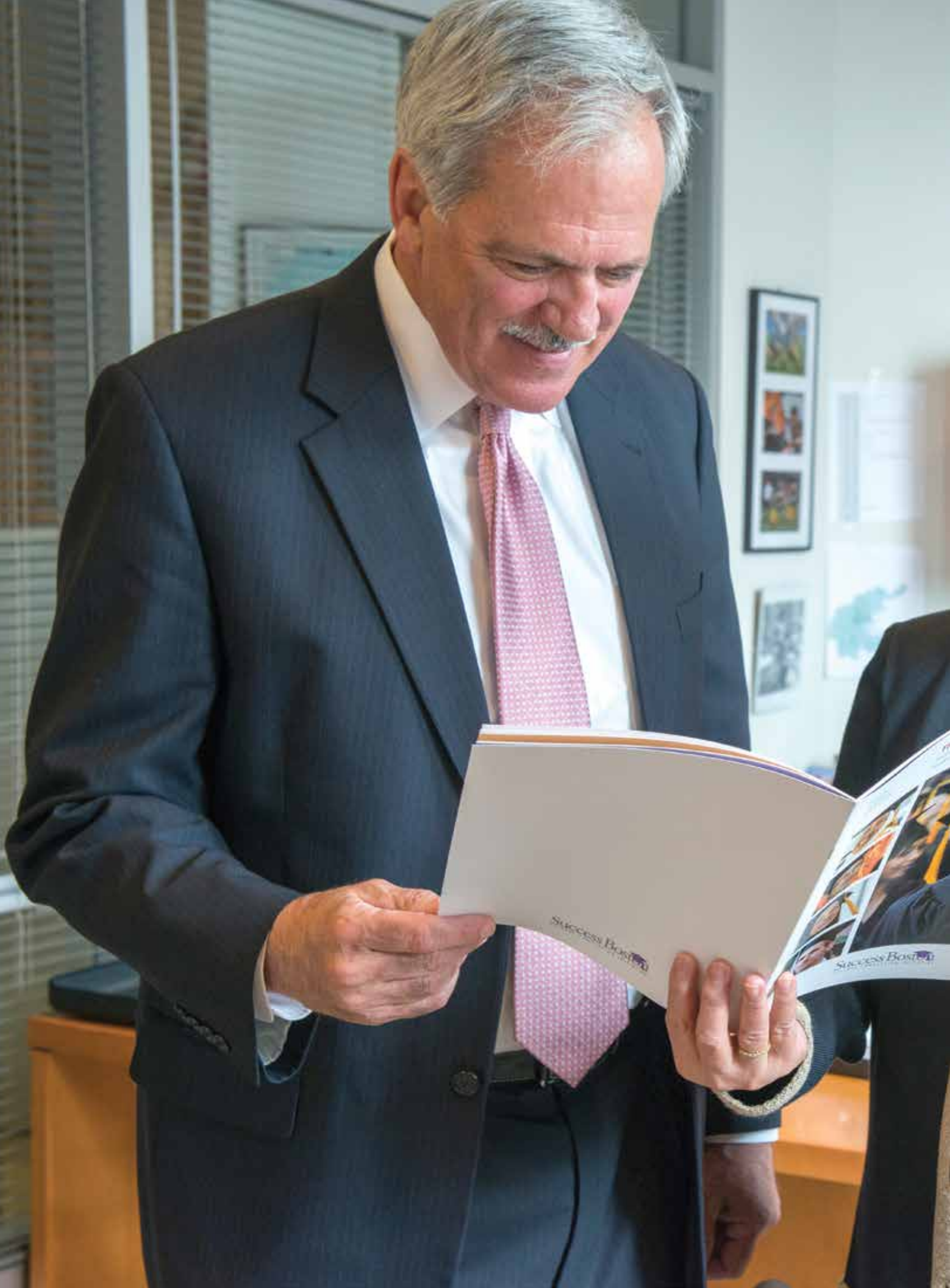


FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Building a hunger team
on campus

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

President Eddinger Interviews
President and CEO of the Boston
Foundation Paul Grogan





THE INTERVIEW

BHCC President Pam Eddinger Interviews Paul Grogan, President and CEO of the Boston Foundation

BOSTON, APRIL 27, 2017

Part of an occasional series of conversations with local and national leaders about issues and trends in community college education.

Presidents of their respective institutions, Pam Eddinger and Paul Grogan explore the role of public higher education, the impact of experiential learning on developing a workforce for the future and the importance of investing in structural reform to increase college completion rates for Boston's young people.

As President and CEO of the Boston Foundation, Paul Grogan has headed the nation's first grant-making organization through its centennial and its evolution to the leadership institute it is today. Through all of the great chapters in the city's development, the Boston Foundation has been a bedrock of encouragement of civic leadership and the driving of public policy.

Under Grogan's leadership, the Boston Foundation has focused on strengthening the city's and region's educational pipeline—from the very youngest learners, to K-12 education and on through college completion and into careers. In 2008 the Foundation launched Success

Boston, implementing a three-part strategy—getting ready, getting in and getting through—to ensure Boston Public Schools students are prepared to meet the challenges of higher education and achieve a degree that will allow them to thrive in the workplace.

President Pam Eddinger (PE): The Boston Foundation celebrated its centennial within the past year. Congratulations. You've now been leading this organization for about a decade and a half.

Paul Grogan of the Boston Foundation (PG): Yes, more than 15 years. It's hard to believe. It feels like I'm just getting started.

PE: Well, you seem to be leading with as fresh an approach as you had when you first began! Looking back at the Foundation's history, what has changed and what has stayed true and constant in its mission?

PG: The Foundation really does three things. First, we're privileged to be the stewards of a large amount of the philanthropic capital available within this community. And second, we provide more

▶ CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

President Pam Eddinger contextualizes the impact of hunger, homelessness and food insecurity on college retention and completion, and reflects on the first-ever *Voices of Hunger on Campus* summit. The event brought two hundred representatives from public and private universities and colleges across the state of Massachusetts, along with community leaders and partners, to convene on high-impact practices to alleviate hunger and consider steps to inform policy solutions that are long-term and sustainable.

► READ THE ARTICLE ON PAGE 8

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IN RECENT NEWS...

Building the Framework for Success

TITLE III AANAPISI GRANT SUPPORTS ESL CURRICULUM



Coinciding with BHCC's first year of being recognized as an Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI), BHCC received a \$1.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to expand its ESL curriculum over the next five years to serve the College's large and growing population of Asian American students and English language learners.

Dr. Maria Puente, Interim Dean of Mathematics, Behavioral and Social Sciences Division, announced the grant at a launch event this spring. The event was appropriately set against the backdrop of the Mary L. Fifield Art Gallery exhibit *Mother Tongue: Pan-Asian Boston-Area Women Artists*. "We all know the power of language in giving one a voice," said Puente, AANAPISI Grant Project Director. "This grant is about equity and access. It's about helping our students reclaim who they are by allowing them to progress faster, and by providing services that are culturally responsive."

The grant, titled "Building the Framework for Success," will enable a comprehensive reform of the ESL curriculum focused on culturally appropriate and local-global learning supported by targeted success coaching.



BHCC Magazine Brings Home National Award

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS RECOGNIZES PRESIDENT EDDINGER AND BHCC INTEGRATED MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

President Pam Eddinger was honored at the NCMPR District 1 Conference as this year's recipient of the Pacesetter of the Year award. The award recognizes a community college president or CEO who has demonstrated special leadership and support in marketing and public relations.

The College's Integrated Marketing and Communications Division was also awarded three District 1 Gold Medallion Awards. *BHCC Magazine* won in the Wild Card category; an MBTA bus wrap advertisement won in the Outdoor Media category; and the College's marketing pieces for *Difficult*



Dialogues with Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin, won in the Print Advertisement Series category.

BHCC Magazine followed up the regional District 1 Gold Medallion with the Silver Paragon Award at the NCMPR 2017 National Conference in Charleston, SC. The Paragon Awards recognize outstanding achievement in design and communication at community and technical colleges.

In its 10th year, *BHCC Magazine* has earned seven gold awards from NCMPR, along with three silver awards.



Deval Patrick Award Goes to Learn and Earn

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM RECEIVES AWARD FROM THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

Bunker Hill Community College received the Deval Patrick Prize for Community Colleges in recognition of its Learn and Earn program.

The annual award from the Boston Foundation acknowledges progress and excellence made by community colleges in establishing employer partnerships and career pathways.

“Matching employer needs with specific training and education for our residents is at the very center of dissolving the skills gap,” said Governor Patrick. “In fact, it’s critical to how we think about growing the economy out so it reaches the marginalized, not just the well-connected.” The former governor presented the award in the amount of \$50,000 to President Pam Eddinger.

Through the Learn and Earn program, students interview for paid internships at 18 leading

Boston companies:

Bank of America, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, BJ’s Wholesale Club, Dovetail Health, Eaton Vance Investment Managers, EMC, Fidelity Investments, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Plymouth Rock Assurance, Putnam Investments, Raytheon, Staples, State Street, Suffolk Construction, The Boston Foundation, Tufts Technology Services, UBS and Vertex Pharmaceuticals.



President Pam Eddinger interviews Paul Grogan of the Boston Foundation on Page 1.



Former Governor Deval Patrick and Paul Grogan, President and CEO of the Boston Foundation, present award to President Pam Eddinger and William J. Walczak, BHCC Board of Trustees Board Chair.



BHCC Students Intern at Microsoft Garage

GARAGE DOORS OPEN TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME

Working closely with full-time engineers at Microsoft’s New England Research and Development (NERD) Center, 15 BHCC student interns had the opportunity to design and deliver fresh Garage programs this semester, including a revamped employee maker space and community technology initiatives.

The Garage is a resource to Microsoft employees that supports and encourages problem-solving in new and innovative ways. In addition to the internship and maker spaces, the Garage produced the largest private hackathon on the planet, and is the official outlet for experimental projects from teams across the company.

With the support of BHCC interns, the Garage is expanding to do more community outreach this year.

The students’ accomplishments were showcased at a networking event at the close of the semester—projects ranged from a smart device for the team’s workspace to maker workshops for underserved youth in the community.



President Eddinger Confronts Hunger on Community College Campuses

REPORT REVEALS PREVALENCE OF FOOD AND HOUSING INSECURITY NATIONALLY

In a report released by the Wisconsin HOPE Lab and the Association of Community College Trustees, a survey of 33,000 students studying at 70 two-year institutions across 24 states found that more than 65 percent of students struggle with food insecurity, half are housing insecure, one-third are regularly hungry and 14 percent are homeless.

BHCC President Pam Eddinger is leading efforts to help students meet their basic needs, as reported in an article in *Inside Higher Ed*. "Everyone wants economic growth for our country and everyone wants a larger middle class," she said. "The one way to it is through education."

Locally, the College launched One Solid Meal, a small pilot program funded by the Oasis Group that provides vouchers for students to use at the on-campus food services. Also President Eddinger



Sara Goldrick-Rab, Founder of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab with Kathleen O'Neill, Director of Single Stop at BHCC.

is working with Achieving the Dream and the presidents of North Shore and Berkshire Community Colleges to affect policy on food insecurity and create long-term solutions for students.

On the national level, a letter sent by President Eddinger last year to Senator Elizabeth Warren's office urged U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren, Edward J. Markey, Patty Murray and Debbie Stabenow to appeal to the U.S. Government Accountability Office to conduct a national study on food insecurity at American colleges and universities.

How does BHCC advocate for its food insecure students? Read Food for Thought on Page 8.



ENGINEERING THE MODERN WORKFORCE



The Program started with **10** students in 2007.

It has grown by **82%** between 2010 and 2015.



433 students are currently enrolled in the Engineering Program.

BHCC Receives Workforce Skills Capital Grant

BAKER-POLITO ADMINISTRATION RECOGNIZES ENGINEERING PROGRAM

The Baker-Polito Administration awarded \$11.8 million in Workforce Skills Capital Grants to 32 vocational schools, community colleges and traditional public high schools, with \$386,540 earmarked for the College's Engineering Program.

Dr. JoDe Lavine, Professor and Chairperson of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Department, has been instrumental in developing the program and its growth. "BHCC's Engineering Program launched with just 10 students in 2007," said Dr. Lavine. "It has since grown to enroll 433 students." The grant will allow for a new Engineering Lab to expand the program's academic offerings.

The grant comes on the heels of two grants awarded by the Administration. BHCC received a Performance Incentive Fund grant to create intensive professional development programs for educators focused on "culturally relevant and inclusive practices." The College also received a Skills for Youth grant to provide vocational-technical education and training equipment to help the commonwealth's workforce development needs.

Go to bhcc.edu/magazine for more detail on these news clips.



than 100 million dollars in grants each year, mostly to Boston-area nonprofits. The third thing we do—which we’ve purposely pursued more recently—is the civic leadership function, where we use the good offices of the Foundation to help our community define and act on its challenges and opportunities.

During the centennial, we discovered a distinctive role of the Foundation in what you might think of as the philanthropic ecosystem. That is, the Foundation has provided seed capital to an astonishing number of nonprofit organizations that are now household words in our community—the New England Aquarium, The Greater Boston Food Bank, Neighborhood Health Centers and Brigham & Women’s Hospital. The Foundation has a history of being a place of ideas. In that I think we very much remain true to our history.

PE: It’s interesting to see your perspective over this long period of time. The Boston

Foundation is a focus and center of collective effort and the impact of that convergence has been eye-opening for me.

PG: This is music to my ears, and I have to give credit to our extraordinary board of directors who in 2001 articulated a more expansive vision for the Foundation as a leadership institute. This is exactly what we wanted the Foundation to be—a place where people come to talk, exchange ideas and plan.

PE: It shows a wonderful convergence of leadership, and the ripening of a beautiful institution. I’m particularly interested in your vision of education in the city. We are in a starfield of top-tier Ivy League universities and colleges. Given that, what do you make of public education in Boston?

PG: The Foundation has been deeply involved for many years, particularly in public K-12 but more recently in higher education as well. I think we know the

things that work very well, and we’ve been pushing very hard, but incremental change in the K-12 system is not going to get us there. We need to think more radically.

We’ve had the illusion that because we have these storied private institutions that are so well known, public higher education isn’t as important in Massachusetts as it is elsewhere. That turns out to be totally wrong. We are very dependent on the quality of public higher education. It’s where most of the kids are going to go, and where tomorrow’s workforce is going to come from. It has to be absolutely first-rate.

As a slow-growing state with an aging population, we need to pursue productivity in new ways. That is why in 2012, we asked then Governor Deval Patrick to bring forward community college legislation, which has brought some new funds, some new accountability and some governance changes.



PE: It's a new narrative tied to the mainstream narrative of workforce and talent development.

PG: Right, and Bunker Hill Community College has done something very important, which is to send a strong signal to the business community that you're open for business and that you want partnerships. The Learn and Earn program is a great example of this. Working with the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership and some of the biggest companies in the state, this program is something I think will be copied by other community colleges.

PE: I was thinking the other day, "What will it take to have every student in high schools and at community colleges have an experience in business and industry? How many internships is that?" To me, it's the last frontier of breaking through. And I see the Boston Foundation again offering that place of convergence.

PG: More and more leaders of companies in the life sciences and technology sectors are realizing that they need to be active on the workforce front or the workforce just isn't going to be there. For example, we're working with the Venture Capital Trade Association on Hack.Diversity, which provides high-quality internships to mostly African American and Latino college-age students, giving them meaningful private-sector work experience. While it's great to have some models like that, we've got to stay with it. And the Boston Foundation sticks with things.

PE: You have been the central connector

in the Success Boston initiative. Talk about the genesis of that, and whether we are halfway to our goals.

PG: We are now defining the success metrics as completed post-secondary education of some kind, and that wasn't the situation just a few years ago. Through Success Boston, we've taken on the whole issue of college completion. It's a case where our approach was reshaped when research unveiled a picture that was very unattractive. The study, funded eight years ago by the Boston Foundation with Northeastern University and the Private Industry Council, showed disappointingly low college graduation rates for Boston Public Schools graduates who had enrolled in college. That was a shock because up until that point, we had been feeling pretty good about Boston having one of the highest college enrollment rates of any urban school district. So Success Boston provides a coach free of charge to every single graduate who wants one—a coach who helps them navigate not only the academic challenges, but the logistical, financial and even emotional challenges of college that they may be first in their family to face—and this is making a very significant difference in graduation rates.

PE: The report on the Success Boston Transitional Coaching Project is out with positive findings. The federal Social Innovation Fund grant is also well into its second year. Has your understanding of the

role of transitional coaching changed over time? Is your faith in this practice holding?

PG: We've gone from graduating about 39 percent of the kids to over 50 percent, and we think that will continue to improve. In the last several years, thanks to the Social Innovation Fund, we've been able to expand the program from 200 to 300 students to more than 1,000 every year.

PE: I have one last question. You've been doing seminal work in the city. What's next for you? What's next for the Boston Foundation?

PG: There are some promising things happening in education, but it's going to take a lot of effort to realize the potential we've now identified. I hope we can maintain and build upon the qualities the Foundation has: being able to recognize good ideas, credibility, strong relationships throughout the community and being a trusted institution. We're going to work very hard to make sure the Foundation remains a great instrument of change across a wide variety of fields. ■

HACK.DIVERSITY

Sponsored by the New England Venture Capital Association, Hack.Diversity seeks to improve diversity in the area's top STEM companies. This spring, the initiative placed 15 BHCC students in internships at Carbonite, DataXu, Hubstop and Vertex Pharmaceuticals. Each intern was paired with a senior-level black or Latino mentor at their corporation to provide coaching and support.

FOOD FOR

BHCC advocates for the basic needs


THOUGHT

of its students

May 6, 2017

Pam Y. Eddinger, Ph.D.

President, Bunker Hill Community College



Never in a million years would I have predicted when I started community college work 25 years ago that hunger and homelessness would be barriers to a college education. For the last decade, despite the difficulties we have faced as community college educators, the way forward has been defined, if complex. We focused on access, retention and completion. We doubled down on developmental math and English reform. We built guided pathways and early colleges. We advised and coached. We insisted on a culture of evidence. We created cohorts and learning communities. We called for the education of the whole student. But, in a fundamental way, we failed to address what a student needs to be educated.



60%

indicated that they couldn't afford to eat a balanced meal

52%

indicated that the food they bought ran out and they couldn't afford to buy more

56%

of Bunker Hill Community College students indicated that they were moderately food insecure



45%

have cut the size of their meals or skip meals because there isn't enough money for food

Results of the Bunker Hill Community College Hunger/Homelessness Eradication Applied Research Tools (HEART) Survey with the Wisconsin HOPE Lab.

It became clear to me recently that there is a whole set of questions we have not asked our students: When was the last time you ate? Where are you doing your homework every night? And then there is a whole set of questions we have not asked ourselves: Where is the data? How do we quantify the issue? How do we triage and what are our long-term policy solutions?

We know already through our research and field experiences with the K-12 national free lunch program that minds do not learn when the body is hungry, that minds do not learn when the body cannot rest. What, then, are the effects of hunger and homelessness on retention and completion in the community colleges? Have we been addressing only one side of the retention/completion equation in our curricular and student support work?

Voices of Hunger on Campus



Hill Community College to discuss a very real, very ugly, very urgent issue. *Voices of Hunger on Campus*, a first-time gathering of Massachusetts educators and community activists concerned about food insecurity and homelessness on college campuses, brought together leaders to address how that deprivation is affecting learning and student achievement; share approaches

On Friday, May 5, representatives from colleges and community organizations from across the state joined Bunker

for helping students gain access to vital resources; forge meaningful partnerships between institutions and community partners to address these issues; and create a plan to implement institutional and policy changes to achieve better outcomes for students.

The gravitas of the headliners underscored the seriousness of the issue among our institutions. Higher Education Commissioner Carlos Santiago recalled how he recognized the pervasiveness of the problem when he found out that many of the high-achieving students who greeted him on his campus visits were homeless and food insecure. He came to

Voices of Hunger with the announcement of new collaborations in the Massachusetts Higher Education System to provide transitional housing for homeless students. The Executive Director of Massachusetts Campus Compact came with similar pledges of collaboration, as did The Greater Boston Food Bank, Food for Free, Food Link and a number of others who heard the call.

Renowned Temple University Education Sociologist Sara Goldrick-Rab, whose new book *Paying the Price: College Costs, Financial Aid, and the Betrayal of the American Dream* enlarged our traditional understanding of the cost of education beyond tuition and fees, keynoted the event. She described her gradual recognition of the hunger issue, first witnessing it in her own classroom, then realizing the enormity of it through the field work of her graduate students and the research of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab she established. She has surveyed over 33,000 students at 70 community colleges across 24 states thus far. Bunker Hill Community College's numbers are representative of what she was found at colleges across the nation: 56 percent of our students are food insecure, experiencing sustained episodes of hunger or nutritional crisis on a regular basis; 14 percent of our students are homeless, and more are housing insecure. The implications of the data are difficult to face. Yet we ignore them at our own peril.

During a listening session at *Voices of Hunger*, recorded student voices spoke our fears. When they are hungry, they lose focus. They choose between their train fare and lunch. They choose between their lunch and their children's. They choose between food and books. They figure out where there might be free food, and plan their day around the availability. They depend on the peanut butter and jelly regularly stocked at the Single Stop office, for themselves, and for their children. They depend on the mobile food pantry or the daily donations by Panera Bread to make ends meet during the last week of their food stamp cycle. They take home packages of frozen leftover food from Food for Free to feed themselves and their families. The need is staggering. Yet they come to college, and try to persist.

“ A longer-term solution would be some form of free lunch or some form of [food assistance] program that would help students in college, not only community colleges, but the four years as well.

Everyone wants economic growth for our country and everyone wants a larger middle class, and one way to do it is through education. If community colleges have 50 percent of all undergraduates, then that's our solution.

—Pam Eddinger

Inside Higher Ed speaking on BHCC's "One Solid Meal" pilot program.



Roundtable discussions at the event centered on immediate high-impact practices of peer institutions and developing long-term steps toward policy change.

Sobering Realizations and a Commitment to Action

We emerged from the *Voices of Hunger* convening with few answers, lots of speculations and an urgent sense of purpose that could not be dispelled. We made promises to ourselves and *one another* that morning:

- We each identified three top ideas on hunger triage and on policy steps, and promised we would do at least one thing to positively impact our campuses.
- We promised to compile a white paper on the proceedings of the day to document the high impact practices we shared and the partners we met and to sustain the practitioner community.
- We promised to monitor the progress of the study to be conducted by the General Accountability Office (GAO) on hunger on college campuses. Requested by Senators Warren, Markey, Stabenow and Murray at the urging of Massachusetts college leaders, the study will be a key step to policy discussions and solutions.
- We promised to return next year, when spring and commencement time comes around. We know it will take time to build long-term solutions. We are in it for the long haul.



Attendees pledge their commitment to hunger awareness.



Organizing a Hunger Team

Voices of Hunger was organized by Bunker Hill Community College's Hunger Core Team. The Core Team is a cross-functional group that includes the Single Stop director; a transfer counselor; executive directors from Institutional Research, Communications and the College Foundation; and the dean of students. If you are interested in organizing similar efforts on your campus or in your region, or would like to receive a copy of the white paper, please contact us at voicesofhunger@bhcc.mass.edu. You can access images and sound recordings of the *Voices of Hunger* May convening at bhcc.edu/voh.

➦ For more information go to bhcc.edu/magazine.



Food Link

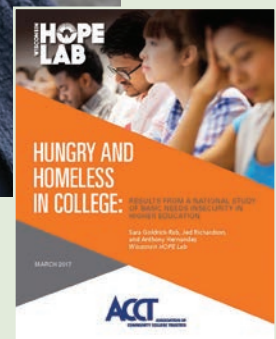


One Solid Meal

BHCC launched One Solid Meal (OSM) as a pilot program during the spring 2016 semester to address hunger and food insecurity on campus. Funded initially by a group of private donors, OSM provides \$7 food vouchers to students who have been referred to the program by the Director of BHCC's Single Stop office. The vouchers may be used in the College's cafeteria, café and Culinary Arts dining room. All but one of the thirty students who participated in the initial phases of the program completed the semester—eight of whom have successfully graduated. A grant from the Boston Foundation, led by President and CEO Paul Grogan, made it possible for BHCC to continue the program into the 2016–2017 academic year. This fall, BHCC will expand the program to serve an additional 25 students currently on the waiting list through an Economic Mobility Grant from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation.



Keynote speaker Sara Goldrick-Rab is the founder of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab, the nation's only transnational research laboratory seeking ways to make college more affordable. Earlier this year, she and researchers at the lab surveyed 33,000 students studying at 70 two-year institutions across 24 states, including students at BHCC. Their report, "Hungry and Homeless in College" found that 65% of students struggle with food insecurity, half are housing insecure, one third a regularly hungry and 14% are homeless.



Science in Space Begins on Earth

at Bunker Hill Community College





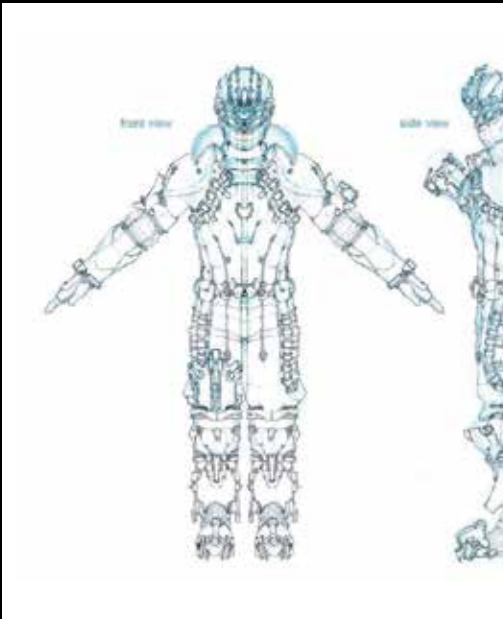
Delson Faria Da Silva Redesigns NASA's Spacesuit

As a child, Delson Faria Da Silva's favorite toys were Hot Wheels and model motorcycles. He imagined himself designing and building them, but what he hadn't envisioned was creating work unfettered by the earth's atmosphere—improving the design of the spacesuit worn by NASA's astronauts.

The 22-year-old mechanical engineering major enrolled at Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) in 2013. Before that, he studied information technology at Joseph P. Keefe Technical High School in Framingham, Massachusetts, where he performed at the top of his class and familiarized himself with the fields of artificial intelligence and neuroscience.

After graduation, a former teacher connected Da Silva with Japanese technical company Information Development America, where he now works as a recruiter. He also works at an engine machine shop, building engines for project cars—cars that look like life-sized versions of the Hot Wheels of his youth.

"I can visualize things," said Da Silva, who lives in Natick,



Redesigned EVA space suit displays and transfers data in real time.



Massachusetts. “Give me a manual and some parts and I can build anything.”

While working with two fellow BHCC students as well as Nick Gonzales—then an adjunct history professor at BHCC—Da Silva and his team placed first in the 2015 Boston NASA Space Apps Challenge, an annual international collaborative computer programming event, or hackathon.

The team built a Super Enhanced Field (SEF) of Vision wearable computer system for the EVA space suit, designed to support astronauts on extravehicular missions. The day after the competition, a representative from David Clark Company, a Worcester, Massachusetts, firm that designs and manufactures spacesuits, got in touch. The company was in the preliminary stages of developing similar technology for the space suit, and was interested in the team’s initial findings. Da Silva plans to report back to them as the project continues to evolve.

In 2016, Da Silva and his team took the project a step further, implementing electroencephalography (EEG) technology to create a non-intrusive and intuitive user interface that could be stimulated by brain activity.

“We analyzed the shortcomings of the previous spacesuit using a 1995 research study by MIT research scientist Christopher Carr,” explained Da Silva. He and two other

BHCC students worked on embedding a neural interface into the suit, so an astronaut could control it using his or her brain.

They also designed a heads-up display (HUD)—an interactive digital display on a clear surface—for the visor (think Google Glass). The HUD displays relevant information in real time from the external modules in use by the spacesuit’s wearer, as it’s being processed by the suit’s embedded computer. These external modules could include endoscopic cameras, smart connected power tools and the suit itself, relaying oxygen levels and temperature both inside and outside the suit.

In addition, the team embedded a wearable computer in the suit’s hard upper torso assembly, the fiberglass piece that forms a rigid enclosure around the upper body of the wearer.

Team E.C.H.I.M.P., which stands for EEG Controlled Heads-up display Module Package, placed second in the city, beating 11 Boston teams by delivering an increasingly sophisticated prototype of a NASA spacesuit.

Japanese nonprofit collaborative Binnovative hosted the event at Harvard University. “It’s a big deal for students who participate. The quality and level of intelligence that revolves around it shows you what it’s possible to do at the College,” said Da Silva.

Later that year Da Silva published his first paper, “Neural Testing for User Interface Design of Project Resource Integration Gear,” with BHCC student Joao Almeida; BHCC adjunct Physics Professor Joseph Shahbazian advised the pair. Da Silva and



Heat map shows potential danger zones for land slides.

his colleague presented their paper at the 2016 Northeast Section of the American Society for Engineering Education Conference at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, Rhode Island.

“We did the research to validate the idea of creating a neural interface for the suit. Until we did the paper the brain control was just a cool idea, but after we did the paper we were able to look at the technology and say, ‘yes this is feasible with the current technology we have,’” said Da Silva.

Each year, NASA releases its challenge a month in advance and asks teams from 135 countries to use their knowledge of robotics, data visualization, hardware,

design and many other specialties to create a solution in just 48 hours. The competition also offers a chance to be featured on open.NASA, an open innovation program making data and resources accessible via an online platform.

In April, Da Silva, along with two teammates, won first prize once again in the 2017 Boston NASA Space Apps Challenge. Da Silva had anticipated that the challenge would involve artificial intelligence and autonomous robotics such as rovers and drones.

His project, Land Safe, uses NASA’s open data portal along with other data points to provide hyper-local predictions of landslides in real-time. One of the most universal hazards in the world, landslides caused more than 11,500 fatalities in 70 countries between 2007 and 2010, often while people were asleep. Land Safe, an online resource center as well as a mobile application, provides users with direction on how to prepare an emergency kit and how to access evacuation routes.

For this BHCC student, the sky’s the limit. This fall, Da Silva will study mechanical engineering at Wentworth Institute of Technology. He hopes to eventually work at a large automotive company in Japan. ■



Student models SEF helmet prototype and wearable computer.

Around the World

*with Professor
Hamblett*



For retired mathematics professor Adele Hamblett, dining in the Kershaw Culinary Arts Dining Room is the trip around the world she looks forward to every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.

Hamblett taught full-time at Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) for 35 years, but still teaches two courses each week, algebra and pre-calculus. On her way, she visits the dining room for some cultural and geographical exploration.

On this particular afternoon the *cuisine du jour* is Indian, featuring *mulligatawny*, a spicy soup seasoned with curry; green salad topped with green goddess dressing; *chingri malaikari* (coconut curry shrimp) with basmati rice; *saag paneer* (spinach with Indian cheese) and *dahi murgh* (yogurt chicken) with *matar pulao* (green pea pilaf). For dessert, the choices are *gajar ka halwa*, a sweet carrot pudding with cashews, raisins, almonds, pistachios, cardamom and rose water, and *malpura*, ricotta pancakes in cardamom syrup.

At the Kershaw Dining Room, a full-service restaurant run by students under the supervision of their instructors, Culinary Arts students fill every role from head chef to dishwasher, host(ess) to food runner. The “on-campus” dining room is open for lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the fall semester. Dinner service is added on Monday and Wednesday evenings each spring.

With a curriculum that spans baking and pastry arts

to preparing, cooking and presenting meals, the program is an established leader in the hospitality and food service industries. Mary Beth Barton, Professor and Chairperson of the Hospitality Department, has taught at BHCC since 1985. “Our program is unique in that the restaurant offers students a laboratory experience,” said Barton. “Students gain hands-on training and have the opportunity to practice their skills before taking on a summer internship at a restaurant or bakery.”

In the dining room, Hamblett is known as the MVP—most valuable patron. The students expect her each week, reserving a window seat overlooking the Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial Bridge and the Charlestown skyline. Hamblett, who began teaching at BHCC in 1977, looks forward to her interactions with students in the program.

“Not many, but some guests will come in, and if something goes wrong or is delayed, they get upset,” she said. “How can you get upset? This is a lab, after



Mulligatawny, a spicy Indian soup seasoned with green curry.

Hamblett overlooking Charlestown from her reserved seat in the Kershaw Dining Room.



Students take their training in the classroom to the Kershaw Dining Room Kitchen.

In the dining room, Professor Hamblett is known as the MVP—most valuable patron.

all. No matter what happens, I'm always patient."

Customers like Hamblett bring a "real-life" teaching experience to the program. "Repeat business is crucial to a restaurant's success," said Barton, "and we teach our students that guest satisfaction is the key to being successful in the industry."

Over the years, Hamblett has watched the culinary program evolve. She credits much of its success to Barton. "Mary Beth has put a finishing touch that was not part of the course until she took over," said Hamblett.

"Beyond the cooking, she teaches all of the things that you need to know [about running] a restaurant."

Barton attributes the success of the program to the expertise of its faculty and the College's support of the dining room. The program's faculty bring a wealth of experience to the kitchen. Their backgrounds in education include Johnson & Wales University, The Culinary Institute of America, Boston University and many more.

"As instructors, we bring our knowledge from these institutions as well as industry


experience into the classrooms and labs each day," said Barton. "Our students take the same core courses as those at other


culinary schools, and they are trained in the same techniques and theories—all at a fraction of the cost." ■

Recipe for Success

Train for a career in hospitality.

- BHCC offers Associate of Science degree programs in Culinary Arts and Hotel and Restaurant Management. Degree Options include Culinary Arts, Baking and Pastry Arts, Hotel-Restaurant Management, Meeting and Event Management and Management of Assisted Living and Institutional Facilities.
- Certificate programs are also available in Culinary Arts, Baking and Pastry Arts, Hotel-Restaurant Management and Meeting and Event Management.

 Learn more at bhcc.edu/hospitality.

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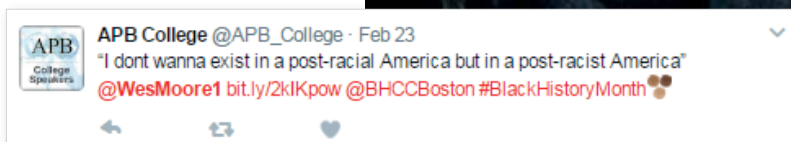
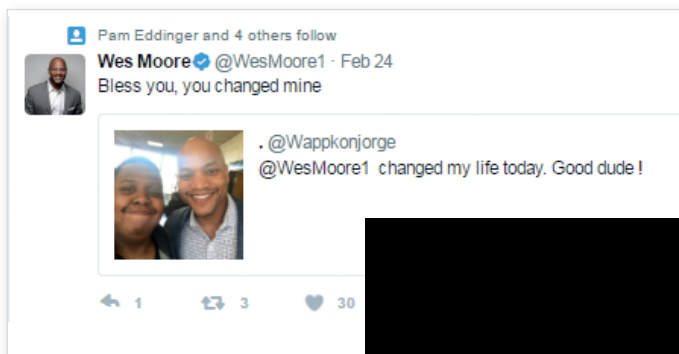
COMPELLING CONVERSATIONS

Wes Moore

AUTHOR AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR

Wes Moore, author of bestselling novels *The Work* and *The Other Wes Moore*, returned to campus on February 23, 2017, as part of a speaker series exploring criminal justice and policing in urban neighborhoods. During his presentation, *Policing: The Rise and Rising Up of the Disillusioned*, Moore shared experiences from his

own upbringing in Baltimore, Maryland, urging students to get personal. “How do we ensure that people feel heard, and that these types of interactions matter?” said Moore, commending BHCC for hosting the open forum. “There needs to be space for people to have these sorts of conversations, to address what is happening around them.”



COMPELLING CONVERSATIONS

Terry McMillan

AUTHOR AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST

While speaking on *Empowering Women* on April 14, 2017, *The New York Times* bestselling novelist Terry McMillan captivated the BHCC community, reading aloud a chapter from a novel she is currently working on. Often credited for her honest portrayal of the contemporary African American woman,

McMillan's works have inspired box office hit movies such as *Waiting to Exhale* and *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*. "Your whole life can change just by reading one book," McMillan told students as she discussed the power of writing on personal expression, and stressed the importance of reading as a way of

understanding oneself and others. "Some things you may learn from experience, but other things, you'll learn from

a book. You can learn about others by watching people, but also by reading about other people's lives."

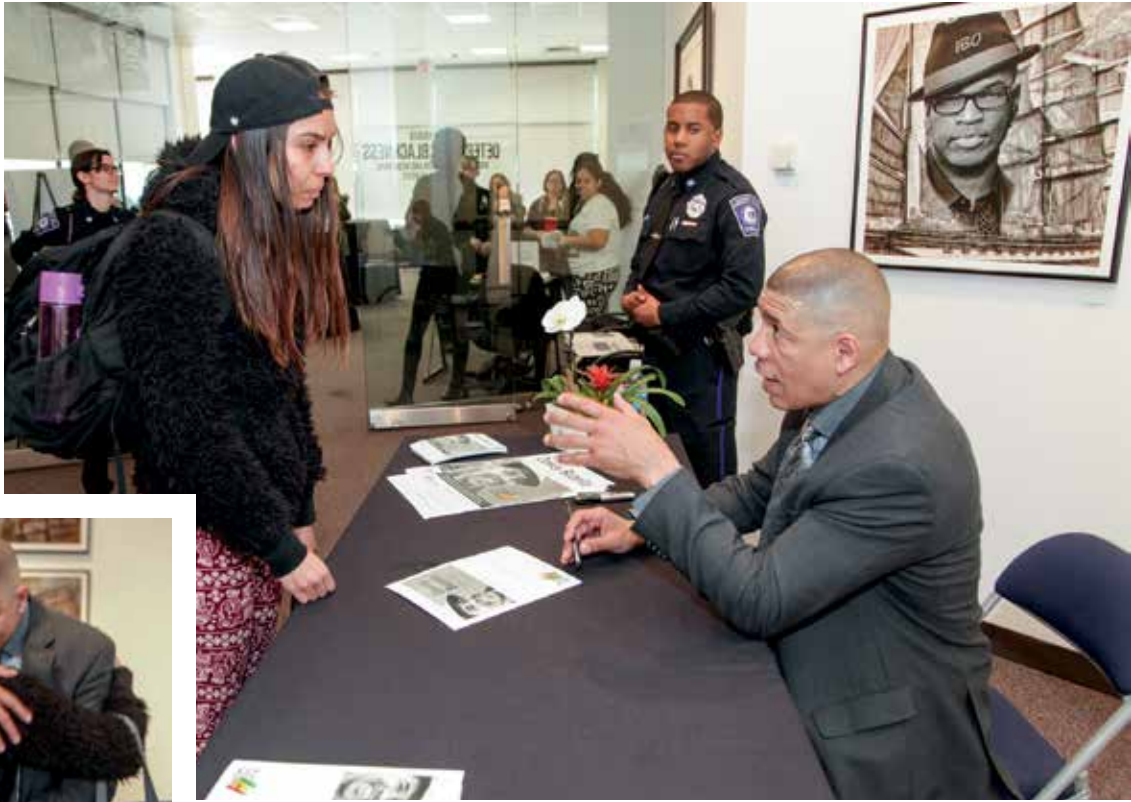


BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Dewey Bozella

BOXER, WINNER OF THE ARTHUR ASHE COURAGE AWARD





Wrongfully imprisoned for 26 years, exonerated boxer Dewey Bozella spoke on March 2, 2017, sharing his story of injustice and the perseverance, courage and faith that led to his long overdue exoneration. Unyielding in his innocence until his release in 2009, Bozella attributes his determination to developing the power to forgive others. “When you talk about change,” he said, “That’s me.” In the face of so much

adversity, Bozella earned his GED, a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree. He dedicated his time to supporting other inmates at the correctional facility, and directed his energy to the ring, becoming the prison’s light-heavyweight boxing champion.



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Kathy Najimy

ACTRESS, COMEDIAN
AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Best-known for her scene-stealing roles like Sister Mary Patrick in *Sister Act* and *Sister Act 2*, and as the voice of Peggy Hill on *King of the Hill*, Kathy Najimy spoke on March 9, 2017, in honor of International Women's Day. A recipient of PETA's Humanitarian of the Year Award, Najimy supports human rights worldwide, speaking—and acting—on behalf of women's rights, LGBTQ

rights, animal rights, AIDS, eating disorders and more. In speaking about *Women & Body Issues*, Najimy stressed the importance of advancing progressive social causes for girls, women and others.



DIFFICULT DIALOGUES

Ed Davis

FORMER BOSTON POLICE COMMISSIONER, CYBER-SECURITY AND TERRORISM EXPERT

Concluding the College’s speaker series on criminal justice and policing in urban neighborhoods, former Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis spoke on March 23, 2017. In 2013, Davis was at the forefront of the emergency response to the Boston Marathon Bombing, a role depicted by John Goodman in the film, *Patriot’s Day*. His presentation, *Policing in America: The Changing Landscape of Our Cities and Law Enforcement’s Role in Protecting Our Communities*, left the BHCC audience with a powerful understanding of the

role of law enforcement in the 19th century and how it relates to the modern challenges we face in the 21st century, including cyber-security and terrorism. A proponent for the issuing of police body cameras, Davis admitted to students that while it’s difficult to balance the “trade-off of personal liberties for your own safety, video increases civility on both sides of the equation.”



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