

PEGGY BRADFORD, J.D., Ed.D.



Dr. Peggy Bradford serves as the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs (Interim)/Chief Academic Officer of Westchester Community College, SUNY. She has previously held several positions ranging from Vice President of Legal and Human Services(Resources) to Vice President of Academic Affairs. She was a full-time faculty member in Criminal Justice. Dr. Bradford has also served as adjunct faculty, dean and associate dean.

Under her leadership, Westchester Community College, which serves more than 24,000 students credit and non-credit, has undergone an academic transformation with the introduction of four new schools, the realignment of several programs to create new pathways for students, and the implementation of more than 200 new articulation agreements, including agreements with HBCUs. Dr. Bradford, who has oversight of 1,066 employees and a 65 million dollar budget, successfully led the college through its 2016 Middle States visit, worked with faculty and staff to create the first Academic Masterplan, served on the core team to implement multiple measures pathway to allow students to enter college level courses based on high school GPA, and provided resources and collaboration for technology tools for faculty and students (expanded degree works, Currilog, TaskStream, and Live 25), instituted college-wide programmatic assessment, and is a core member of the Achieving the Dream Network. She spearheaded the Strategic Enrollment Management Summit and worked

with faculty and staff to garner a 4% increase in graduation rates in only 18 months, with 2016 being the largest graduating class in the college history. Recognized as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), the College has gained national prominence for its regional work in workforce development and middle skills curricula alignment.

Dr. Bradford was appointed to the State of Illinois Remedial Education Board, elected to the Faculty Senate, Chaired Labor and Employment Committee of Kane County Bar Association, selected as a Fulbright Scholar – Ghana, Africa and Oxford round table panelist Oxford England, served on the Ohio Department of Education Regional Advisory Council, Council of Undergraduate Research Social Sciences, and was a member of the National Association of College and University Attorneys continuing education committee. Her colleagues elected her to the Maryland Association of Community College Academic Affairs organization as the Vice President and to the State Advisory Committee to Presidents on Performance Based Funding. Dr. Bradford is a peer reviewer and Evaluator for Middle States. In addition, her community outreach with past and present affiliations include Girl Scout Board of Directors, YWCA, United Way, National Association of College and University Attorneys, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Baltimore Regional Workforce Development Board, Excelencia in Education, Rotary, Sistah to Sistah Incorporated (a non-profit focused on increasing participation of underrepresented women in STEAM), and Westchester Women in Leadership Advisory board. She is also a licensed attorney and site consultant for the Lumina Foundation.

Dr. Bradford received her Doctor of Education in Leadership and Policy with a focus on Higher Education Administration – Community College Leadership from Northern Illinois University. Additionally, she holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Iowa, College of Law, a Master of Science Degree and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Administration of Justice from Southern Illinois University, and an Associate of Arts Degree from Shawnee College.

As an exemplary innovator and transformative servant leader, she focuses on student success, teaching and learning, community engagement, industry workforce needs, and strategic planning. Dr. Bradford was nominated by the Math department for Dr. Carol S. Russett American Council on Education Award 2016, received the Administrator of Excellence and Leadership Award from Elgin Community College, Administrator of Excellence Award Baltimore City Community College, Chair Academy, League of Innovation, and Native American Fellowship from Aurora University. Other honors include Urban Empowerment Workforce Development – Year- UP, Mandel Leadership Program, and charter member of Kappa Delta PI (International Honor Society in Education to foster excellence in education). Dr. Bradford is the liaison to the Board of Trustees for academic, workforce, community education programs and student services. She has presented locally, nationally, and internationally. She has published court opinions and articles in NISOD on community college issues.

She is the mother of three adult children and has been married for 31 years. Dr. Bradford has a passion for reading, shopping, traveling, the arts, basketball, and photography.