

Kelsey Bright

Summary

Responsive and resourceful higher education administrator with research, management, and leadership experience at the federal and local levels with a long track record of building relationships, working collaboratively across organizations and leveraging the skills and resources of others to achieve results. Most recently, appointed Interim Associate Vice President (AVP), Academic Affairs at Monroe Community College (MCC). At MCC, provided leadership in projects and initiatives designed to shape, guide, and achieve College priorities. Responsible for inter- and cross-divisional projects resulting in recommendations with College-wide applicability. Worked closely with members of the President's Cabinet on operational concerns, College-wide initiatives designed to impact student success, emergency management operations, contract negotiations, and labor management.

Experience

Interim Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs, Monroe Community College (May 2023 - Present), Rochester, NY

While also serving as the Assistant to the Provost (see duties below), took on responsibilities as the Interim AVP, Academic Affairs, including the following:

- Coordinate curriculum and program development, assessment, and work on the Middle States self-study process for reaccreditation including drafting a request for supplemental information.
- Manage the operations of the Teaching and Creativity Center, Honors Program, and MCC's High Impact Practices. Implementing a focus on program results for these efforts including measuring adoption and assessing the direct impact on student success.
- As part of the Aspen Unlocking Opportunity team, lead efforts designed to improve students' post-completion success. As part of this team, responsible for a cross-divisional effort to review transfer program mapping to ensure students have the most equitable and efficient path to completion, transfer, and post-completion success.
- In collaboration with Faculty Association leadership and administration, implemented a retirement incentive program for teaching faculty.
- Manage the hiring process for the Academic and Student Affairs division, faculty load process, stipends for dual enrollment and adjunct coordination, and faculty release.

Assistant to the Provost, Monroe Community College (August 2018 - Present) Rochester, NY

Provide strategic leadership in support of the Office of the Provost. With almost 1000 employees, the Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) Division is responsible for fostering student success through well-designed teaching and learning and data-informed programming to support students.

- Represent the Provost at Cabinet events such as student governance leadership meetings, press interviews, department chair meetings, and various committees.
- Member of the contract negotiations team and, in a collaborative process, helped secure a 5-year contract between the College and the MCC Faculty Association. Continued contract-related discussions as a leader in the labor-management process.

- As a COVID-19 tactical response team member, leveraged position to handle questions, write communications, and provide direction on issues related to national, state, and local requirements.
- Collaborate with others on the Faculty Resource Committee on strategies for “right-sizing” MCC.
- Serve as the Provost's representative for the College Faculty Senate and as the Provost's representative on many College committees charged with streamlining and improving operations. For example, worked with the testing office to pilot an automated testing system that saved the faculty and students time and saved the College money. Served as the Division Policy Representative for the development and review of College-wide policies, procedures, and protocols. Efforts helped protect the College and its employees by providing needed, specific guideposts for certain academic and student functions.
- Serve as a confidential advisor to the Provost. Prepare correspondence, presentations, reports, speeches, and other communiqué.
- Collaborate with College deans and 20 department chairpersons to, among other things, shape the master schedule, resolve student issues, and promote teaching and learning at the College. Responsible for completely revamping the fall 2020 master schedule to reduce in-person classes. This process involved weeks of work with Computing, Registration & Records, Community Relations, and the academic departments. Reported daily progress to the Provost and other Cabinet members.
- Manage student academic complaints and grade grievances. In addition to shepherding the students through the complaints and grievance process, identified professional development to address systemic complaints. Remodeled the complaint process to achieve clearer and more consistent guidance.
- Heavily involved in student conduct resolution and academic honesty process.
- Trained as a "Safe Zone" representative for LGBTQ+ individuals to provide safe, supportive, and inclusive environments on campus.

**Assistant to the Provost, Finger Lakes Community College (FLCC)
(August 2014 – August 2018) Canandaigua, NY**

Provided coordination, research, process improvement, and management functions for the Division of Academic and Student Affairs (ASA), including the following:

- On an ongoing basis, successfully partnered with faculty, staff, and administrators to advance the mission of FLCC. For example, championed a concurrent enrollment project for greater partnerships with local secondary schools to improve student readiness and increase the FLCC applicant pool. Worked with the Vice President of Administration & Finance, Director of Enrollment Management, and multiple academic departments to fund, design, and implement the project.
- Researched trending topics in higher education for the President, Provost, curriculum committee, and faculty. Worked with the Chief of Assessment, Planning & Continuous Improvement to develop a new assessment tool—the feasibility study—to evaluate the need for and impact of potential academic programs or program tracks at FLCC. The feasibility study is the first curricular step in FLCC's program development process. Completed reports on gerontology, nutrition sciences, sports medicine, respiratory therapy, psychology, and healthcare science.
- Modernized and streamlined the faculty load process for a more transparent and automated process.
- Extensive shared governance experience with participation in Academic Senate and Senate Executive Committee. Also led reviews of College-wide policies and procedures.
- Coordinated ASA departmental budgets—approximately 40 budget lines—for travel, training, equipment, and furniture purchases. In an environment of shrinking enrollments and tightening budgets, worked collaboratively with Cabinet members to analyze budget lines, facilitated discussion on

faculty and staff position requests, and discussed equipment and information technology purchases for ASA, including Perkins and other grant funding.

- Improved the department chair evaluation system by developing a web-based evaluation survey; collected, analyzed, and summarized the quantitative and qualitative survey data.

Assistant Director (GS-15), Education, Workforce, and Income Security Division US Government Accountability Office (2001 – 2004) Washington, DC

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) is an independent, non-partisan congressional agency responsible for reviewing how taxpayer dollars are spent by providing Congress and federal agencies with objective, data-based recommendations designed to help the government save money and work more efficiently. As a leader in GAO's Education, Workforce, and Income Security Division:

- Provided the highest level of customer service to members of Congress, congressional staff members, federal agency heads, and the public.
- Concurrently led national research teams to conduct in-depth analysis of selected agency policies and procedures to provide recommendations designed to improve governmental operations on an array of higher education topics resulting in reports, briefings, and testimonies for congressional committees. Topics included accreditation of distance learning programs, women in STEM, teacher training programs, college completion efforts, and federal loan processing.
- Briefed congressional staff on GAO's work, presented at industry events, and twice testified before congressional committees.
- Handled inquiries from news outlets, interest groups, and other constituents.

Education

M.S. Policy Analysis, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois

B.A. Political Science, Minors in Economics and Women's Studies, Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania

Publications related to higher education

College Completion: *Additional Efforts Could Help Education with Its Completion Goals* (GAO-03-568)

Gender Issues: *Women's Participation in the Sciences Has Increased, but Agencies Need to Do More to Ensure Compliance with Title IX* (GAO-04-639)

Higher Education: *Activities Underway to Improve Teacher Training, but Reporting on These Activities Could Be Enhanced* (GAO-03-6)

Distance Education: *Growth in Distance Education Programs and Implications for Federal Education Policy* (GAO-02-1125T)

Low-Income and Minority Serving Institutions: *Department of Education Could Improve Its Monitoring and Assistance* (GAO-04-961)