

Catherine B. Holbrook, Ph.D.

Dr. Catherine Holbrook has served as the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Bridgewater State University since 2004, with responsibilities for providing leadership and direction for Student Affairs as well as coordinating divisional assessment to guide strategic planning and alignment of resources. As AVP, she provides oversight for Athletics/Recreation NCAA DIII, the Campus Center, Commuter Services, the Center for Multicultural Affairs, Office of Student Involvement and Leadership, Greek Life, and New Student Orientation. She has also provided oversight for Conference and Event Services in past years. She supervises a staff of 39 full-time professional and support staff and over 120 part-time support staff, coaches, graduate assistants, and student employees. She is responsible for managing budgets of approximately \$3.2 million. She serves as divisional liaison to Academic Affairs, developing and enhancing collaborations to promote student engagement and learning as well as to support retention and student success. She also serves as co-chair of a team charged with providing direction for expansion of residential learning communities and development of learning communities for commuters. She represents the division on diversity initiatives and cross-divisional grant and planning teams.

In 2003-2004 Dr. Holbrook was Acting Vice President for Student Affairs, serving as chief student affairs officer and a member of the president's cabinet, providing direction and supervision to the division leadership team. In addition to responsibilities as AVP, she was also responsible for Admissions, Campus Police, Career Services, Children's Center, Counseling, Financial Aid, Health Services, Residence Life, and Campus Judicial Programs. Prior to this, she served as Associate Dean and Assistant Dean of Students at Bridgewater, providing leadership and direction for the Campus Center, Student Activities Office, Conference and Event Services, Career Services, and the Office of Multicultural and International Affairs, and supervised a staff of 30 full-time and over 200 part-time and student employees. She also held prior positions in student activities and campus center management at Boston University and Trinity University.

Among the highlights of her accomplishments include providing leadership in strategic planning and assessment, organizational leadership and change management, student success and retention, program development, and student advocacy and mentoring. Dr. Holbrook has presented at a variety of national and campus fora, including NASPA, which honored her with the 2012 Institutional Leadership Award for Region I. She has also taught leadership in the First-Year Seminar and has served as a guest lecturer in a variety of graduate and undergraduate courses.

Dr. Holbrook received her Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, with a dissertation on "First-Year Student Development: Students' Perspectives on Growth and Contributing Factors." She received her M.Ed. in Counseling from Bridgewater State, and her B.S. in Business Administration from Villanova. She also holds a certificate in crisis leadership from Harvard. Dr. Holbrook has been actively involved in youth and education organizations in her community and served on planning and advisory boards for numerous University/community programs designed to mentor underserved youth, prevent at-risk students from dropping out of high school, and prepare them to pursue higher education.