Rubinstein fills new VP position at HCC

HOLYOKE — Rachel Rubinstein of Florence has joined Holyoke Community College as its first vice president of academic and student affairs.

Before her arrival Oct. 1, Rubinstein spent 16 years at Hampshire College in Amherst, where she was a professor of American literature and Jewish studies.

From 2010 to 2018, she served as dean of academic support and advising.

At HCC, Rubinstein will oversee the divisions of academic affairs and student affairs in what is a newly unified role at the college. The combined position is one of the features that attracted her to HCC.

Rubinstein holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Yale University and a doctorate from the Department of English and American Literature and Language at Harvard University.

A child of Mexican-born Jewish immigrants, Rubinstein grew up in a Spanish-speaking household and also studied Yiddish. Her academic studies, professional scholarship and teaching have largely focused on immigration, migration and multilingualism.

Rubinstein lives in Florence with her husband, Justin Cammy, an associate professor of Jewish studies and world literature at Smith College. They have three children.