

D. H. G. 4/1/19

# BUSIN

## MAKING NEWS

### **HCC welcomes first ombudsperson**

**HOLYOKE** — **Lea Occhialini** of East Longmeadow is Holyoke Community College's first om-



**LEA OCCHIALINI**

budsperson and chief culture officer.

Occhialini is the former faculty and staff ombudsperson at Hampshire College and mediator/trainer in the

Smith College Office of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity.

Prior to that, she worked as a Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court qualified mediator for the Mediation and Training Collaborative in Greenfield and helped oversee the Massachusetts Attorney General's Face-to-Face mediation program in Holyoke, Northampton and Greenfield small claims courts.

Occhialini has worked in the mediation field since 2013. She started at HCC on March 4.

Occhialini holds a bachelor's degree from Smith College, a law degree from American University's Washington College School of Law, and a certificate in the foundations of organizational ombudsman practice from the International Ombudsman Association.