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## HCC welcomes new dean of science, engineering and math

*Adekunle is a three-time fellow at the NASA Glenn Research Center*

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College is proud to welcome Olugbemiga Adekunle as its new dean of Science, Engineering and Mathematics.

Adekunle, 37, who lives in Holyoke with his wife, Martha, and two young children, had previously worked at Blue Ridge Community College in Virginia as a computer science professor and more recently as associate dean of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and English.

He holds a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a master's degree in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in instructional design and technology at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

Before arriving at HCC in September, Adekunle, who goes by

Gbemiga (pronounced "Beng-gah"), spent the summer as a research fellow at the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland for the third time to gain experience in systems engineering.

"All of his experiences will serve him well in this position and support his work on behalf of the division," said Monica Perez, vice president of Academic Affairs.

Adekunle, whose parents moved to the United States from Nigeria before he was born, grew up in Nashville, Tennessee, and later in Baltimore, Maryland. At six-foot-five, he is an avid basketball player who also enjoys rapping, comedy, improv, and Star Wars.

"I see people as well-rounded," he said. "I want people to see me that way too."

He said he is excited to have a new challenge and the chance to put his administrative experience into action at HCC.

"The focus of my work is making sure that students are successful," he said. "I also aim to ensure that faculty are supported and get appropriate training to help them advance their careers."



**Olugbemiga Adekunle**