

**ETC.****HOLYOKE****HCC lauded for race, gender equity**

Holyoke Community College has been listed among the top institutions of higher education in the country for maintaining diversity and gender equity in its administrative positions, according to a national report.

In that report, titled "Institutions That Are Getting It Right," the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources compared representation and pay equity for women and minority administrators from more than 2,000 public and private colleges and universities over 16 years.

Researchers determined that only 11 institutions had maintained "consistent success" in four critical areas: women's pay equity, minority pay equity, women's representation and minority representation. HCC was one of the 11 and the only college or university from Massachusetts on the list.

"Holyoke Community College's aspirations are to represent our diverse student body," said Clara Elliott, the college's director of human resources.

"In doing so, HCC makes diversity recruitment a deliberate act. Our Affirmative Action goals are guided to the outreach and recruitment of underrepresented groups, not only in leadership positions but across the campus community."

"It is wonderful to be recognized as an institution that focuses on core issues relating to equity," said Christina Royal, president of HCC.

"At HCC, we believe that diversity makes us stronger. This is central to our history and our mission and a fundamental part of our future."

The report defined "top institutions" as those with diversity-equity ranks in the top two-thirds every year they participated in the surveys. Institutions had to participate for at least 10 years to be considered.