



# PATHWAY PRESS

Office of Transfer Pathways Monthly Newsletter

## Welcome Back Students!!!!

We are thrilled to continue our edition of the Office of Transfer Pathways Newsletter for Spring 2024. In this season of growth and transformation, we are excited to share inspiring transfer stories, valuable resources, and exciting updates for our HCCC community.

### Spotlight on Success

Meet our featured transfer students and discover their remarkable journeys from community college to thriving members of the NJCU community.

### Navigating the Pathways

Dive into articles offering tips, advice, and insights on successfully navigating the transfer process, academic excellence, and campus engagement.

### Meet Your Transfer Success Coach

Get to know our dedicated NJCU Transfer Success Coach for the CONNECT Program, Madeline Fermin, and learn about the invaluable support and guidance she will provide to ensure a smooth transfer.

### Spring Events and Opportunities

Stay informed about upcoming events, workshops, and opportunities specifically tailored to enhance the transfer experience!

Whether you're a current student, a recent transfer, faculty, or staff member, this newsletter aims to foster connection, celebrate achievements, and provide the resources you need to thrive. We invite you to explore, engage, and celebrate the blossoming success of our transfer community!

The Office of Transfer Pathways wishes you a successful spring semester!



### IN THIS ISSUE

TRANSFER GLOSSARY

HCCC | NJCU CONNECT

TRANSFER FEATURES

TRANSFER CHAMPION

TRANSFER ROADMAP

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

HCCC OFFICES

HCCC LEADERS



### MISSION STATEMENT:

Hudson County Community College provides its diverse communities with inclusive, high-quality educational programs and services that promote student success and upward social and economic mobility.

# Transfer Glossary: Types of Agreements

Listed below are the most common types of transfer agreements and how each of them works. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Transfer Pathways.

<p><b>Articulation Agreement</b></p>	<p>An articulation agreement is an agreement that goes into detail about things such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guaranteed admission</li> <li>• Acceptance of transfer credits</li> <li>• Eligibility for scholarships</li> <li>• Academic course requirements</li> </ul> <p>These agreements help to provide students with a step-by-step guide for completing necessary course requirements and transferring credits to another school.</p>
<p><b>Dual Admissions</b></p>	<p>Dual Admissions is when a student is admitted to two institutions at the same time. For example, a student can be seeking a degree at HCCC and already admitted to a four-year transfer institution, with access to their campus and services. Their HCCC classes would then transfer to the four-year institution, once they complete their Associate’s Degree.</p>
<p><b>2+2 Agreements</b></p>	<p>2 years at the community college and 2 years at the four-year institution.)                  2+2 programs are designed for students who take half of a degree at one institution and the second half at another institution. Usually, this is completing an associate degree at a community college and transferring into a four-year institution for bachelor’s degree completion. A student’s enrollment status may cause an agreement like this to vary in length.</p>
<p><b>3+1 Agreements</b></p>	<p>(3 years at the community college and 1 year at the four-year institution.)                  A student earns their associate degree at a community college, stays for an additional year at the college as they take upper-level coursework, then transfers in their final year to the four-year institution to complete their bachelor’s degree. These pathways, designed by both the community college and university, minimize the risks associated with the transfer and set learners up for success.</p>
<p><b>Reverse Transfer</b></p>	<p>Reverse transfer is when students transfer credits back to a previously attended institution to complete a degree even after leaving that institution. These agreements realize that students often transfer before completing a degree. Institutions collaborate closely, obtaining necessary paperwork and submitting the official transcripts for formal awarding of the degree. Students are encouraged to complete their Associates degree to maximize transfer credit and reduce cost.</p>



# Transfer Features: HCCC | NJCU CONNECT Program



## What is the HCCC | NJCU CONNECT Program?

CONNECT is an exciting partnership between Hudson County Community College (HCCC) and New Jersey City University (NJCU). Students in the CONNECT program will receive personalized support and services to streamline the transfer process from HCCC to NJCU.

## Benefits of CONNECT

- Tuition Cost Savings! Based on your income, your degree may be tuition-free!
  - The New Jersey College Promise offers an affordable pathway to a college degree. Together, the Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) and the Garden State Guarantee (GSG) programs promise transparent, predictable pricing for up to four years of college here in New Jersey.
- Every Credit Counts! A specialized, aligned curriculum from HCCC to NJCU ensures all HCCC credits transfer toward your selected NJCU degree program.
- Dedicated Success Coaches. Transfer Success Coaches provide continuous support and guidance from your enrollment at HCCC to your graduation from NJCU.
- CONNECT = Access. As a CONNECT student, you will have access to facilities and events at both colleges, including housing and sporting events at NJCU.
- No Additional Application. Earn your associate degree at HCCC and then seamlessly transition to earn your bachelor's degree at NJCU with no additional application or fees required.
- CONNECT Your Career. Enjoy special internship and co-curricular experiences that will prepare you for career success.

## Who Should Consider Being CONNECTed?

CONNECT is available to current HCCC students who:

- Are enrolled in an eligible CONNECT degree program pathway.
- Have a GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- Have earned between 0 and 30 college credits at HCCC.
- Enroll in at least 9 credits per semester at HCCC.
- Complete the CONNECT Declaration Form.

## CONNECT Declaration Form



For more information about the HCCC | NJCU CONNECT Program, please contact [CONNECT@njcu.edu](mailto:CONNECT@njcu.edu).



# Transfer Success Coach: Madeline Fermin



**Can you share with us a few resources that helped you succeed in college as a student?**

As a commuter student and later at the same time working full time, I knew it was important to take advantage of all the resources the college offered to be successful. I spent a lot of time in the college library. NJCU library was then and currently accommodates students, with spacious and comfortable group and individual study rooms. It allowed me to form study groups with my classmates. The library was always my go-to place to do my research paper, study for midterms and finals. During my time in school, I knew it was also important to have good time management skills. Having time management helped me improve my organizational skills, overcome procrastination, and, most importantly, reduce stress. These resources formed a strong support system that contributed to my success as a college student.

**As the transfer success coach at NJCU, how will you guide students who are interested in applying to the HCCC/NJCU CONNECT program?**

As the Transfer Success Coach at NJCU, my primary goal is to support and guide students who are interested in applying to the HCCC/NJCU CONNECT program and navigate the transfer process successfully and seamlessly. I will begin by providing personalized help to the students, by offering information sessions, one-to-one meetings and establishing an effective student service collaboration between departments. This will help students understand the unique benefits and opportunities offered by the CONNECT program. By offering individualized guidance, addressing concerns promptly, and providing a sense of community, I aim to enhance the overall experience of students interested in applying to the HCCC/NJCU CONNECT program.



**What advice would you give current HCCC students who are planning to continue their education after HCCC?**

My advice for current HCCC students planning to continue their education after completing their studies is to plan and be well-informed to assure a successful transition to a four-year institution. Students should attend transfer fairs, open houses, information sessions, and other events that enable direct interaction with representatives from four-year institutions. This will help students gather information, ask questions, and make informed decisions about their transfer options. I would also advise students to take advantage of all the resources offered to them as future transfer students to maintain a strong academic standing. By following this advice and being part of the HCCC/NJCU CONNECT, students can start continuing their education after community college with confidence and preparation, ensuring a successful academic experience.

## MADELINE'S FAVORITE QUOTE

"Challenges are what makes life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful"

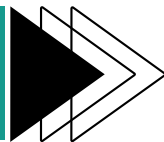
- Joshua J Marine



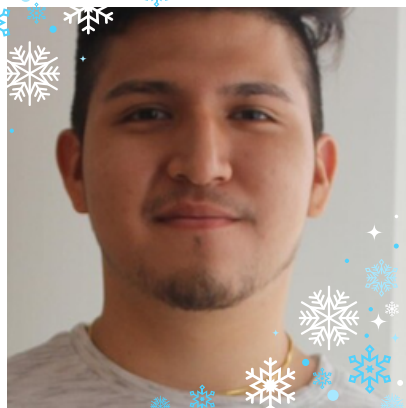
# Transfer Champion: Anthony Figuero, Class of 2022



BIOLOGY (SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS), A.S.



BIOLOGY, B.S.



My name is Anthony Figueroa, and I earned my associate degree in biology (science and mathematics) in 2022 from Hudson County Community College (HCCC). Subsequently, I transferred to New Jersey City University (NJCU) to pursue my bachelor's degree in biology. These two academic institutions have proven invaluable in providing the support and preparedness necessary for my future. My current aim is to gain acceptance into medical school, and the knowledge I gained from both HCCC and NJCU has set me on the right path. One notable benefit of being a transfer student from HCCC is that, based on my performance, I could obtain the transfer presidential scholarship at NJCU. This scholarship has significantly eased financial burdens, allowing me to focus primarily on my studies. As I move forward in my academic journey, I am grateful for the foundation and opportunities these institutions have provided, positioning me for success in my pursuit of being admitted in medical school.

## What motivated you to transfer from HCCC to NJCU?

The decision to transfer from Hudson County Community College to New Jersey City University was driven by my aspiration to continue with my academic journey and have a better comprehension of biology. In addition, I enrolled into NJCU because of its diverse, supportive, and affordable educational environment, presenting an opportunity for not only academic advancement but also personal and professional growth.

## How did you navigate the transfer process, and were there specific resources or support services at HCCC and NJCU that played a crucial role in your successful transition?

Transferring between educational institutions initially posed challenges, which caused the process to be somewhat confusing and stressful. However, this transfer process facilitated by advisors at HCCC and the collaborative efforts of NJCU's admissions department, transfer resource center and financial aid office were essential in smoothing out the difficulties of the transition. Their unwavering support enabled me to identify and fulfill all necessary requirements, including transcripts and essays, and provided essential information regarding available scholarships.

## In your experience, what advice would you give other students who are considering transferring to the NJCU?

For students thinking about transferring to NJCU, I highly recommend starting the transfer process as early as possible. This not only ensures a smooth transition but also allows you to secure spots for all your classes and build a schedule that fits your lifestyle. Also, maintaining constant communication with transfer advisors at both HCCC and NJCU is crucial to be successful as a transfer student. I recommend attending NJCU orientation sessions because you will talk with advisors from all the departments to answer your questions on the spot. Last, it's important to keep you informed about the application deadlines, class registration timelines, and complete financial aid processes to prevent unnecessary complications.



## ANTHONY'S FAVORITE QUOTE

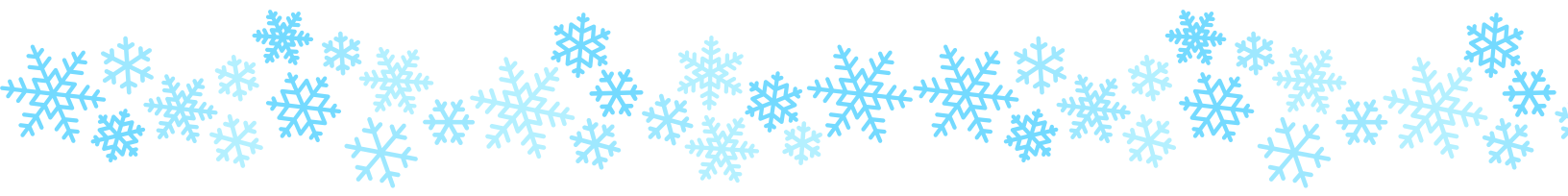
"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."

-Gilbert K. Chesterton

# Transfer Student Timeline

The transfer student timeline is a comprehensive guide that outlines the various stages and key milestones a student typically experiences when transitioning to a new educational institution. This timeline serves as a valuable resource for transfer students, providing them with a clear understanding of what to expect during their journey. Whether you are considering transferring or have already embarked on this path, this timeline will serve as a valuable roadmap to ensure a smooth and successful transition to your new educational destination.

<p><b>Early Stages (0-15 credits):</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research:</b> Start researching potential transfer universities and their transfer requirements, including GPA, prerequisite courses, and application deadlines. Consider factors such as location, program offerings, and financial aid options.</li> <li>• <b>Academic Advising:</b> Meet with an academic advisor at the college to discuss your transfer goals. They can guide you on the appropriate courses to take and ensure you are on track to meet transfer requirements.</li> <li>• <b>General Education Courses:</b> Focus on completing your general education requirements, as these are typically transferable to most universities. Consult with your advisor to determine which courses fulfill these requirements.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mid-Stages (15-30 credits):</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Target Schools &amp; Career Services:</b> Narrow down your list of potential transfer universities based on your research and personal preferences. Visit their websites and attend transfer information sessions or college fairs to gather more information. Additionally, reach out to your community college's career services department for guidance on how your academic choices align with your long-term career goals. They can provide insights into which universities offer programs that best match your desired career path.</li> <li>• <b>Major Exploration:</b> If you have an idea of your intended major, start exploring the prerequisite courses required by your target universities. Ensure that you are taking the necessary courses at your community college.</li> <li>• <b>Maintain GPA:</b> Aim to maintain a competitive GPA, as many universities have minimum GPA requirements for transfer students. Strive for a GPA above the minimum requirement to enhance your chances of acceptance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Preparing for Transfer (30-45 credits):</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transfer Agreements:</b> Check if your community college has any transfer agreements or articulation agreements with specific universities. These agreements outline the courses that will transfer and fulfill major requirements at the receiving institution.</li> <li>• <b>Visit Transfer Offices:</b> Visit the Transfer Pathways office at the college and the universities you are interested in to seek guidance and ensure you are on track. They can provide information on transfer scholarships, housing options, and other resources. Additionally, check in with your academic advisor during this stage to discuss your progress, ensure you're meeting the necessary academic requirements, and get their input on your transfer plans.</li> <li>• <b>Extracurricular Activities:</b> Engage in extracurricular activities, such as clubs or volunteer work, to enhance your transfer application. These activities demonstrate your involvement and commitment outside of academics.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application and Final Stages (45-60 credits):</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Application Deadlines:</b> Be aware of transfer application deadlines for your target universities. Start working on your application well in advance to ensure you have enough time to gather necessary documents, such as transcripts and recommendation letters.</li> <li>• <b>Personal Statement:</b> Begin drafting your personal statement, highlighting your academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and reasons for transferring. Seek feedback from advisors, professors, or mentors to strengthen your statement.</li> <li>• <b>Financial Aid:</b> Research and apply for financial aid and scholarships specific to transfer students. Contact the financial aid offices at both your community college and the transfer universities to explore your options.</li> <li>• <b>Check with Registrar Office regarding Graduation:</b> As you approach the completion of your community college coursework, check with the Registrar's Office to ensure you are on track for graduation. They can provide guidance on any final requirements and procedures. To complete the graduation process, follow these steps: Visit <a href="http://HCCC.edu">HCCC.edu</a>-Click on the menu-Select "Student Success"-Click on "Graduation Application."</li> </ul>



# December 2023 Recap

## HCCC|NJCU CONNECT Program Signing Ceremony

Each year, about one-quarter of Hudson County Community College graduates transfer to New Jersey City University, more than from any other community college. To help facilitate that, the institutions have partnered to launch an initiative known as the HCCC|NJCU CONNECT Program. Hudson County Community College President Christopher Reber and New Jersey City University President Andrés Acebo sign the HCCC|NJCU CONNECT transfer agreement, accompanied by students who will take part in the program.



## Teen Magazine Pep Rally Introduces Lincoln High School Students to HCCC



Lincoln High School seniors were dancing in their seats (and often out of them as well) during a recent pep rally at Hudson County Community College (HCCC) hosted by Teen magazine. Labeled as a mini-open house, students gathered first in the college banquet hall, where they heard several motivational speeches, while also getting a chance to dance to tunes played by HOT 97 DJ Wallah.



# The Office of Transfer Pathways Events



As part of their commitment to providing valuable resources for students, the office is organizing upcoming campus tours, offering prospective students an opportunity to explore the campus facilities, learn about academic programs, and connect with current students and faculty. Additionally, the office is hosting graduation workshops to support graduating students in their transition to the next phase of their academic journeys. Stay tuned for more details on these exciting initiatives!

*We're thrilled to announce that several prestigious 4-year universities will be visiting Hudson County Community College (HCCC) in October.*

*This is your chance to connect directly with university representatives, explore academic programs, discuss transfer options, and get answers to all your burning questions about your next educational adventure.*

## Onsite Visit: Partners

Day	Month	Date	University/College	Campus	Time	Transfer Representative
Mon.	Feb.	5	Rutgers University-Newark	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Marcus Bourbon
Wed.	Feb.	7	Fairleigh Dickinson University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Marco Bermudez
Fri.	Feb.	9	Western Governors University	North Hudson Campus	10AM- 2PM	Maritza E.M. Mercado
Fri.	Feb.	9	William Paterson University	Journal Square Campus	2PM-5PM	Justin Pannullo
Mon.	Feb.	12	Rutgers University-Newark	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Marco Bermudez
Wed.	Feb.	14	New Jersey City University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Jorge Fernanderz
Fri.	Feb.	16	Berkeley College	North Hudson Campus	10AM- 2PM	Pat Verile
Mon.	Feb.	19	Rutgers University-Newark	North Hudson Campus	10AM- 2PM	Marco Bermudez
Wed.	Feb.	21	Saint Peter's University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Mason Traino
Wed.	Feb.	21	Montclair State University	North Hudson Campus	2PM-5PM	Erin Samples
Fri.	Feb.	23	William Paterson University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Maritza E.M. Mercado
Fri.	Feb.	23	Berkeley College	Journal Square Campus	2PM-5PM	Pat Verile
Mon.	Feb.	26	Rutgers University-Newark	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Marco Bermudez
Mon.	Feb.	26	LIM College	Journal Square Campus	2PM- 5PM	Constance Labat
Mon.	Feb.	28	New Jersey City University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	Jorge Fernanderz
Mon.	Feb.	28	Felician University	Journal Square Campus	2PM- 5PM	Gina Defalco

*ALL STUDENTS must print an unofficial transcript for each visit.*

*Visit our Transfer Pathway website for any "Remote Instant Decision Days."*



## Instant Decision Days Schedule

Day	Month	Date	University/College	Campus	Time	Fee Waiver
Thur.	Feb.	8	New Jersey City University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	GOKNIGHTS
Thur.	Feb.	8	Rutgers University-Newark	Remote	9AM- 4PM	HUDSON24
Thur.	Feb.	22	New Jersey City University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	GOKNIGHTS
Thur.	Feb.	22	LIM College	Journal Square Campus	2PM- 5PM	TBA
Tues.	Feb.	27	Kean University	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	GO2KEAN
Thur.	Feb.	29	LIM College	Journal Square Campus	10AM- 2PM	TBA



# HCCC Associate and Assistant Dean's



**Pamela Bandyopadhyay**  
Associate Dean  
Academic Affairs  
pbandyopadhyay@hccc.edu  
201-360-4186



**Darlery Franco**  
Assistant Dean  
Testing and Assessment  
dfranco@hccc.edu  
201-360-4191



**Veronica Gerosimo**  
Assistant Dean  
Student Life and Leadership  
vgerosimo@hccc.edu  
201-360-4198



**Gretchen Schulthes**  
Associate Dean  
Advisement  
gschulthes@hccc.edu  
201-360-4168

# Executive Director's



**Fiona Aproo-Johnson**  
Executive Director, Enterprise  
Applications (Ellucian)  
Information Technology Services (ITS)  
fjohnson@hccc.edu  
201-360-4331



**Ilya Ashmyan**  
Executive Director of Engineering  
and Operations  
Facilities  
iashmyan@hccc.edu  
201-360-4693



**Christopher Conzen**  
Executive Director, Secaucus Center  
and Early College Programs  
Student Affairs  
cconzen@hccc.edu  
201-360-4030



**Joseph Caniglia**  
Executive Director North Hudson  
Campus  
North Hudson Campus  
jcaniglia@hccc.edu  
201-360-5346



**Matthew LaBrake**  
Executive Director, Center for  
Online Learning  
Center for Online Learning  
mlabrake@hccc.edu  
201-360-4033

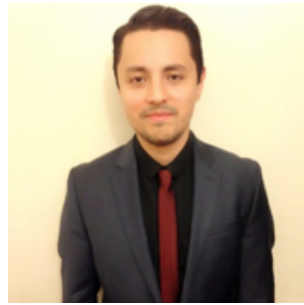


**John Quigley**  
Executive Director, Safety and  
Security  
Safety and Security  
jqquigley@hccc.edu  
201-360-4080

# HCCC Director's



**Jose Lowe**  
 Director of EOF  
 Educational Opportunity Fund  
 jlowe@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4173



**Kenny Fabara**  
 Director of Academic Affairs  
 Academic Affairs  
 kfabara@hccc.edu  
 201-360-5329



**Jennifer Valcarcel**  
 Director of Transfer Pathways  
 Office of Transfer Pathways  
 jvalcarcel@hccc.edu  
 (201) 360-4119



**Anita Belle**  
 Director of Workforce Pathways  
 School of Continuing Education  
 and Workforce Development  
 abelle@hccc.edu  
 201-360-5443



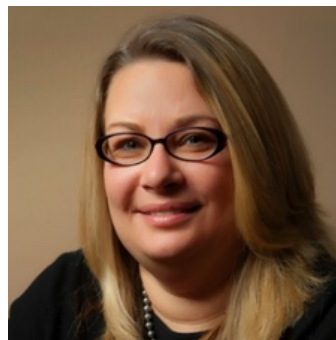
**Catherina Mirasol**  
 Director of CEWD  
 School of Continuing Education  
 and Workforce Development  
 cmirasol@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4241



**Chastity Farrell**  
 Director of CEWD  
 School of Continuing Education  
 and Workforce Development  
 cfarrell@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4262



**Doreen Pontius-Molos**  
 Director of MHCW  
 Mental Health Counseling and  
 Wellness  
 dpontius@hccc.edu  
 201-360-5451



**Jennifer Christopher**  
 Director of Communications  
 Communications  
 jchristopher@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4061



**Leslie Lang**  
 Director of Student Accounts  
 Student Accounts  
 llang@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4106



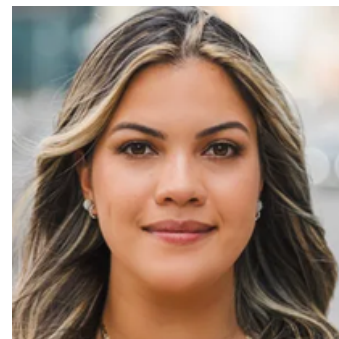
# HCCC Director's



**Jeff Roberson Jr**  
 Director of Contract & Procurement  
 Procurement and Purchasing  
 jrobersonjr@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4054



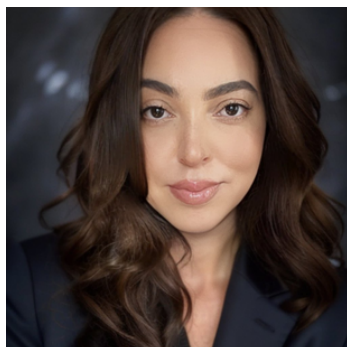
**Paula Roberson**  
 Director of Center for Teaching, Learning and Innovation  
 Academic Affairs  
 proberson@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4775



**Katherine Morales, LSW**  
 Director, Hudson Helps Resource Center  
 Hudson Helps Resource Center  
 kmorales@hccc.edu  
 201-360-5431



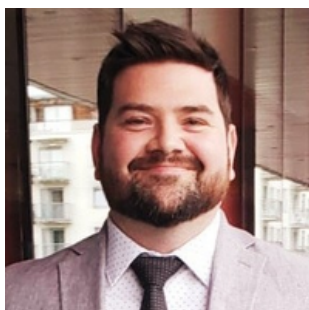
**Michelle Vitale**  
 Director of DEI for Cultural Affairs  
 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
 mvitale@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4176



**Danielle Lopez**  
 Director of DEI for Accessibility Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
 dlopez@hccc.edu  
 201-360-5337



**Cheryl Cashell**  
 Director of Radiography Nursing and Health Sciences  
 ccashell@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4782



**John Urgola**  
 Director of Institutional Research  
 Institutional Research and Planning  
 jurgola@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4770



**Jing Yang**  
 Director of Library Technology  
 College Libraries  
 jyang@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4723



**Amaalah Ogburn**  
 Director of Faculty and Staff Development  
 Human Resources  
 aogburn@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4020



**Josianne Payoute**  
 Director of Benefits and Compensation  
 Human Resources  
 jpayoute@hccc.edu  
 201-360-4072

# PATHWAY PRESS

*Office of Transfer Pathways Monthly Newsletter*



## Contact

Jennifer Valcarcel  
Director of Transfer Pathways  
(201) 360-4119

Rimsha Bazaid  
Program Coordinator  
(201) 360-5478

[transferpathways@hccc.edu](mailto:transferpathways@hccc.edu)

70 Sip Avenue, 1st Floor  
Jersey City, NJ 07306



## HCCC Current Partnerships

