



DARE TO DO MORE

August 17, 2021

I am pleased to announce that Wendy M. Nicholson has been appointed to serve as LaGuardia's first Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion pending approval from the University.

For the past 9 years, Wendy served as the CUNY LEADS Advisor at LaGuardia Community College, in the Center for Career & Professional Development. In this role, she was responsible for preparing students with disabilities for the workforce, advocating for their rights and needs, and educating the college community about serving students with disabilities. Wendy has 30 years of experience advocating for, and working with, underrepresented communities, including in the areas of diversity, mental health, disabilities, and deafness.

Wendy brings first-hand knowledge of the College's work on diversity, equity and inclusion issues. She served as a co-chair for the President's Advisory Council on DEI, has been an important leader in the Faculty and Staff of Color Collective, the Senate Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, and has served as a member of the Black Lives Matter Planning Committee and the Middle States Self Study Team. Prior to coming to LaGuardia, Wendy worked as an American Sign Language interpreter for 25 years. She has published articles on diversity in community colleges, participatory budgeting, and was a researcher/writer for the Volcker Alliance Truth and Integrity in State Budgeting Report, and co-wrote a book chapter on Racial Equity in Brazil.

Wendy has a B.S. from Tufts University, an MPA from John Jay College, and is currently completing a Doctorate in Public Administration at Rutgers University, where she is a fellow in the Center for Law, Immigration, and Metropolitan Equity. She is a first generation New Yorker, born in the Bronx, and raised in the Bronx and Barbados. She starts her new role at LaGuardia on August 30th.

I want to thank the search committee, led by Professor Jason Hendrickson, and the committee members-- Deema Bayrakdar, Vanessa Bing, Rachel Boccio, Ronald Edwards, Astrid Niebles and Carolyn Nobles-- for their excellent work.

Please join me in welcoming LaGuardia's new Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Wendy M. Nicholson.

Thank you,

Kenneth

Kenneth Adams
President