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People

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Holyoke Community College welcomed **Amy Brandt** as its new dean of health sciences and culinary arts.

Brandt, who currently resides in Greene, New York, most recently worked as the associate vice president and dean of health sciences at



AMY BRANDT

Broome Community College in Binghamton, New York, which is part of the State University of New York system.

At SUNY Broome, she focused on

developing partnerships with local area hospitals to address health care worker shortages and advocated for enhanced use of simulation to improve clinical education and position programs to remain current with emerging national trends in healthcare education.

At HCC, she will oversee seven academic programs: foundations of health; medical assisting; medical billing and coding; nursing (associate of science and practical); radiologic technology; veterinary and animal science; and culinary arts. She started her new job at HCC on Jan. 4.

Brandt holds a master's degree in social work from California State University, Sacramento, and a Ph.D. in social work from the University

of California Los Angeles

After earning her Ph.D., she began working in education, initially at University of California Berkeley in the School of Social Welfare, where she focused on program administration and teaching introductory social work courses. In 2007, she transitioned to the community college setting in California, focusing on allied health education and has worked on allied health program development in California, Florida, Texas, and New York.

Brandt has extensive experience working with state regulatory agencies, as well as with developing self-studies for programmatic accreditation. She has served as a site visitor for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, reviewing institutions for compliance with general education and educational effectiveness standards.

She has collaborated with multiple programs on developing assessment plans to assess educational quality and delivery and has co-led a variety of different campus committees related to program review, general education, professional development, COVID-19 re-opening, and student retention and equity initiatives.

The law firm of Bacon Wilson announced that two of its attorneys have been promoted. **Daniel McKellick** and **Christopher Pierson** have both been named as shareholders in the firm as of Jan. 1.

McKellick is a business and

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