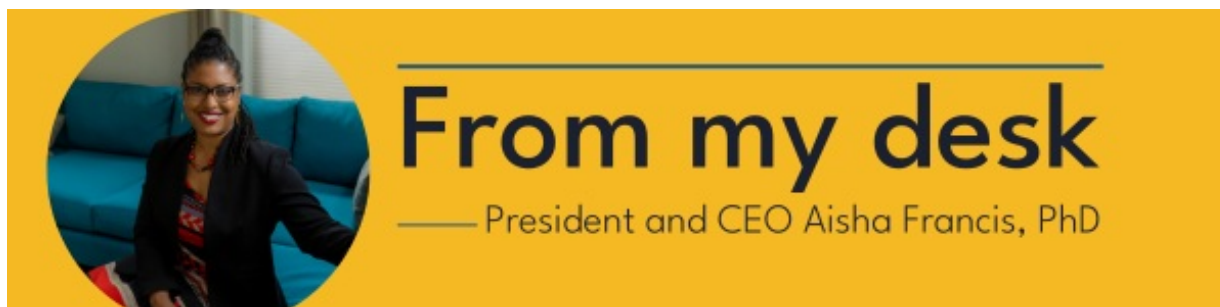


# The Spark

May 2024



Hello Development,

Commencement is a joyous time of year for our graduating students and for the faculty and staff who have supported their success. As a technical college, we are laser-focused on preparing our students for great careers (as shown by our strong graduation and job placement rates).

We also strive to give students experiences and opportunities that will help them become strong leaders and good citizens. At our May 18th Commencement Ceremony, graduates heard from three leaders who exemplify that combination of career success and good citizenship: our Commencement Speakers, philanthropists Joyce and Bill Cummings (Joyce Cummings received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree and Bill Cummings received an Honorary Doctor of Business Administration); and our special guest, Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson, who provided remarks. Our Student Speaker, Clotilde Varela, shared the challenges she overcame since leaving her home in Cape Verde to attend college in the US. Together, their inspiring stories were a fitting way to send our graduates off to begin their next chapters—whether that entails a new job, further education, or both.

Please enjoy these photos from the college's 116th annual Commencement. We are so proud of our almost 300 graduating students and applaud the focus, tenacity, and determination they demonstrated in reaching this important milestone.

Sincerely,

*Aisha Francis, Ph.D.*



[More Commencement Photos](#)

## Introducing...the Co-op



This month, 25 Franklin Cummings Tech automotive and construction management

students will start their co-ops at partner companies. For three construction company partners, this initiative marks the first time they have welcomed talent from an associate degree program rather than bachelor's degree holders. After meeting our students and vetting our curricula, these employers jumped at the chance to invest in the talented sub-bachelor's degree workforce being educated here.

By the summer of 2026, all six of our associate degree programs will include a paid co-op option tailored to the needs of employers and students, where students will work full-time for a premier company in the summer after their first year and part-time in their second year to amass 1,200 hours of relevant work experience before they graduate.

For their part, Franklin Cummings Tech co-op companies will offer co-op grads a living wage, attractive subsidies such as tuition or loan repayment support, and stronger job opportunities in higher-level positions. During the program, the college's co-op manager supports both students and their supervisors to ensure a mutually successful placement. Learn more and join our growing list of participating companies.

[Learn more](#)

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## All in the Family

Did you know family members of graduates are one of our top referral sources for new students? As a result, we count among our alumni a good number of siblings, parents and children, and even spouses. Meet one of several inspiring college couples: Devyn Shea, who will earn her Opticianry associate degree this summer, and her husband, Alec Stanton, a 2017 Electrical Technology/Practical Electricity program graduate who is now working in the sustainability field as a licensed electrician for ReVision Energy, an employee-owned solar company.



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## Faculty Promotions



We are honored to be among a talented group of faculty who work tirelessly to educate our students and provide them with the skills they need to succeed in a high-demand technology or trade career. Please join me in congratulating these faculty members who advanced to the next academic rank at the college!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
2024 FACULTY PROMOTIONS**

 <b>Jim Dellot</b> Automotive Technology	 <b>Rachid Elafer</b> Computer Technology
 <b>Evan Mancini</b> Automotive Technology	 <b>D. Michael Lord</b> Computer Technology
 <b>Dr. Heather Duffy</b> Biotechnology	 <b>Margaret Goodwyn</b> Computer Technology
 <b>Dr. Fathima James</b> Computer Technology	 <b>Leslie Tuplin</b> Construction Management

Thank you to the faculty promotion committee for their work in recommending these faculty for promotion

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## Upcoming Events



Franklin  
Cummings  
Tech

# Nubian Square

## Community Conversation and Walking Tour with Franklin Cummings Tech



### June Tour

**Tuesday, June 4, 2024**

**Tour: 4:30 – 5:00 pm**

*Reception: 5:00 – 6:00 pm  
to follow at  
Roxbury Innovation Center*

Franklin Cummings Tech cordially invites you and a guest to join us for a private walking tour of Nubian Square; the future home of the Franklin Cummings Tech's new campus. We will explore the rich cultural history of the square and share "behind the scenes" updates on the construction of our new campus. Join us for a post-event reception held at Roxbury Innovation Center with Lara Tavares, Director of Early College and Community Connection at Franklin Cummings Tech. Please RSVP by May 31, as capacity is limited.



*Meet us here  
for the tour.*

**Meet for Tour** at 1011 Harrison Ave  
(corner of Eustis Street and Harrison Ave), Roxbury  
*Space is limited, comfortable outdoor clothing and footwear is suggested.*

**Reception to follow** at the  
Roxbury Innovation Center  
2300 Washington Street, 2nd floor, Roxbury

**Reserve Your Spot**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN**  
**The Franklin Cummings**  
**Tech Annual Meeting**  
featuring **Sec. of**  
**Education Patrick Tutwiler**



**Thursday June 20**  
**6:00 – 8:00 pm**  
**Franklin Cummings Tech**  
**41 Berkeley Street, Boston**

Arrival & Networking 6:00 – 7:00 pm  
Program & Panel Discussion 7:00 – 8:00 pm

**MA Secretary of Education,**  
**Patrick Tutwiler, Ph.D.,** will  
provide welcoming remarks and  
participate in a panel discussion on  
the advantages of Early College  
and Franklin Cummings Tech's  
expansion of Early College through  
the Advanced Standing Associates  
Program (ASAP).

**RSVP**

Please **RSVP** by **June 6, 2024**  
A light meal will be served.

## We'd like your feedback

Take our 30-second survey and let us know what you'd like to see in future issues of The Spark!

[Take the Survey](#)

*Franklin Cummings Tech is especially grateful for the support from the following Fall 2023 Gala supporters who will be recognized this year, without whom our work would not be possible. Thank you!*



To learn more about how your company can support our educational mission and be highlighted in future issues of *The Spark*, please email [Eliza Wilson](mailto:Eliza.Wilson@franklincummings.edu), Executive Director of Development Operations.

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