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**Cambridge College to Tackle Diversity and Disparities
in Massachusetts with Health Care Forum**

CAMBRIDGE— Cambridge College is working to bring state health care issues to the forefront. The College’s Health Care Management program is hosting a panel entitled **“Diversity and Disparity in Massachusetts Health Care”** on **Monday, November 12th at 5:30 p.m. at the Boston Marriott Newton, 2345 Commonwealth Avenue in Newton, which will feature several key figures in the Massachusetts healthcare community.**

The panel, which will be moderated by President of the Oral Health Foundation **Ralph Fuccillo**, includes the new Massachusetts Secretary of Health and Human Services **Dr. JudyAnn Bigby**, the new President of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation **Jarrett Barrios**, the House Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Health and State Representative **Peter Koutoujian**, and the new Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Social Services **Dr. Angelo McLain**.

“This is a significant event because it will offer an all new perspective on access to health care,” said John Bove, Associate Dean of the Cambridge College Health Care Management program. The dynamic panel will discuss many of the barriers that block equal access to health care and the ways in which the Commonwealth’s health care leaders are trying to eliminate these barriers. Topics will range from how and why legislative policy decisions are made, how to fund them through new programs, proactive case management, and creating an insurance system that reduces disparities.

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Dr. JudyAnn Bigby, who oversees 17 state agencies and serves in the Cabinet of Governor Deval Patrick, will explain how she decides to spend the state's money and how she prioritizes spending in an attempt to erase disparities. A former member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and State Senate, Mr. Barrios will discuss Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts's current access initiative and how the state is planning to put it into action. State Representative Koutoujian has been in the Massachusetts legislature for over ten years and is the new author of the report on diversity and disparities in healthcare. He will explain this report and how he plans to put it into action. Before his 2007 appointment as Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Dr. McClain previously served as an Executive Director of ValueOptions in New Jersey, which provided the centralized administrative infrastructure for the state's behavioral health delivery system. Dr. McClain will share how he is looking to make a difference in Massachusetts in his new position, and how he will manage the Department in an effort to make sure citizens get the help they need.

Mr. Fuccillo brings more than 30 years of professional and volunteer experience in education, health and human services, and health philanthropy to his efforts to improve access to preventive oral health care for the underserved. He was formerly the Executive Director of the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation.

Registration and a reception for the event will begin at 5:30 p.m., and the panel will commence at 6 p.m. For further information or to RSVP, contact Karin Turer at Karin.turer@cambridgecollege.edu or 617-873-0179.

Founded in 1971, Cambridge College is a private, non-profit institution dedicated to providing academically excellent, time-efficient, and cost-effective higher education for a diverse population of working adults for whom those opportunities may have been limited or denied. Cambridge College has regional centers in Cambridge, Springfield, and Lawrence, MA; Chesapeake and South Boston, VA; Augusta, GA; Ontario, CA; Memphis, TN; and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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