

## New students, new coaches, new opportunities at ACE in 2024

### MEET THE NEW COACHES



**Kayla Morse Higgs** promotes equity in leadership, guiding senior leaders to

overcome mindset barriers and transform behaviors, enhancing their professional growth and organizational impact.



**Philip Kane** is a VP with US Bank in Hartford, CT, and deeply committed to

helping students meet their full academic potential. He is Vice Chair for the Legacy Foundation of Hartford, which provides academic and experiential learning opportunities to the region's most underrepresented students.



**Janella Isaac Luc** is an Instructional Coach for Boston Public Schools,

where she supports others in reaching their goals and discovering their own passions.



**Cheryl M Mills** is a Learning and Support Assistant who has worked in education

for the past 15 years. She is passionate about helping young people build confidence and realize their full potential.



*We're excited to welcome 29 new first-year students to the ACE program this fall, along with five new coaches to support their academic success.*

**Join us as we welcome 29 new first-year students into the ACE program this fall.** They bring enthusiasm from their participation in the summer onboarding program, and we have hired five new coaches to help them build success as they commit to their academic careers.

**What's the buzz? Sponsored by Fidelity, ACE is offering the first ACE Alumni Networking Luncheon** at the end of this month. Open to all ACE alumni who have graduated from a two-year or four-year college from 2016- to 2024, the luncheon will feature workshops on life beyond college. Fidelity Investment experts will cover topics on the financial industry landscape,

global financial trends, and planning for the future. An ACE coach and HR professional will focus on career management, creating a personal brand, and Building and Leveraging your network relationships.

**With your investment in ACE, you continue to help young people build their dreams and careers.** We are creating first-time opportunities for our alumni, bringing in new coaches, and growing together.



Thank you.



Lorita Williams  
CEO and Founder

## HIGHLIGHTS

### ACE CEO serves as a panelist for the Mental Health and Wellness program, sponsored by the Brandeis Alumni of Color Network

Lorita Williams participated in the Brandeis Alumni of Color panel discussion on health and wellness in September. The panel addressed mental health and wellness issues impacting the military, students, and the community at large, highlighting resources and strategies to combat challenges and promote well-being.



## By the numbers



86%

2024 graduates finished with a 3.0 or higher

29

Students entered the fall 2024 semester



396

Students coached since 2012

### Welcome new ACE board member Kate Lennox



Kate has spent her career supporting the development of a diverse workforce. For the last 20 years, she has focused on coaching new leaders and fostering the development of other coaches. She hopes to use that expertise to enable the ongoing growth of ACE's staff and clients.

### ACE Coach earns her PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology



Congratulations to ACE Coach, Dr. Suhaily Penix, who completed her Doctorate of Philosophy in Molecular and Cellular Biology at Brandeis University.

*Congratulations!*

## GIVE TODAY



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