

Living-Eassa receives appointment to the U.S. Department of Education

August 5, 2010

Libby Living-Eassa of Indian River State College (IRSC) of Florida has received an appointment to the U.S. Department of Education to work with the Division of Academic and Technical Education. The Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) allows federal, state and local governments to share personnel resources and thereby improve their service to the public by continuing collaborations with States in planning and implementing national activity projects.

The USDOE selects individuals with exceptional national, state and/or local experience to the department for a one-year assignment. The process also benefits participating States and institutions by giving individuals an opportunity to experience and learn firsthand about the inner workings of federal programs.

Living-Eassa is recognized as one of the nation's key innovative leaders in the field of education. Specifically, Ms. Living-Eassa will assist in the management and oversight of the Rigorous Programs of Study National Activity Initiative, serve as a career cluster liaison, provide technical assistance related to the Carl Perkins Act, Adult Career Pathways, and other college and career transitions related projects.

A staunch supporter of educational initiatives local, state, and national, Living-Eassa has served as the President for the National Association of Tech Prep Leadership, the Florida Career Pathways Network, Division Vice President for the Florida Association for Career/Technical Education, and Chair for the Occupational and Workforce Education Commission for the Florida Association for Community Colleges. She has also served as a member of the National Career Pathways Network national advisory board.

Programs under the direction of Ms. Living-Eassa have been published as "Best Practices" by state and national organizations. She was also a 2007 recipient of the Chancellor's Exemplary Partnership Award in Florida for her work in Tech Prep as well as the 2009 Ambassador's Award for effective representation of IRSC and career education throughout the community, state, and nation.

As Director of Career Pathways Initiatives for IRSC, Ms. Living-Eassa oversees the coordination and implementation of Career Pathways programs and initiatives throughout the Research Coast Career Pathways Consortium which serves some 42 schools to insure optimal program alignment and seamless transitions for area students to postsecondary levels.

The Career Pathways initiative, the first integrated economic development and education initiative utilized as a system framework, works to develop collaborative relationships with local, state, and national leaders in secondary and postsecondary education, community, and business to identify and develop career pathways along crucial industry clusters for high-wage, high-demand careers.

Strong collaboration among Consortium partners in this high-growth region is responsible for the increased level of student success and the number of students who are better equipped for postsecondary studies and the global workforce.

Living-Eassa will begin the position this Fall.