

# Archived Information

Speaker Biography  
Public Hearing-Boston, MA  
March 20, 2006  
The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education

**Mary L. Fifield, President**  
**Bunker Hill Community College**  
**Boston, Massachusetts**

Mary L. Fifield is the President of Bunker Hill Community College. From 1992 to 1997 she served as President of Harrisburg Area Community College, a multi-campus institution in Pennsylvania's state capital. During her tenure at each institution, each college was selected as recipient of the Charles Kennedy Equity Award from the Association of Community College Trustees for achievement of equity and opportunity for women and persons of color. Dr. Fifield is a former member of the Board and Executive Committee of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) representing more than 1100 two year institutions nationwide. A strong advocate for workforce development, she has served by appointment of the governor on the Workforce Investment Board for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Institute for Community College Development, a State University of New York and Cornell University Partnership. Currently she is serving a three year term as Commissioner for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, the accrediting agency for higher education institutions. Dr. Fifield is a member of The Boston Foundation Indicators Project Leadership Group and The Boston Foundation Workforce Development Advisory Committee. She is a member of the Executive Committee and Chair Emerita of the Boston Higher Education Partnership, a coalition of 30 Greater Boston Colleges, Universities and the Boston Public Schools. She also serves on the Boston Private Industry Council's Workforce Investment Board. Dr. Fifield has co-authored several publications and articles about community colleges, global workforce needs, and the value of diversity. She holds a B.A. from Clarke College, an M.F.A. from Pratt Institute and a Ph.D. from St. Louis University.