



A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PRESIDENT

**Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.**

## In Sorrow of Professor Riesa Toote

Dear Hostos Family,



It is with profound sadness that I share news on the passing of one of our recently retired faculty members, Riesa Toote. Professor Toote grew up in Manhattan and the Bronx to Panamian/Barbados parents as the youngest of ten children. She received her RN from Bronx CC in the early 1970s and went on to get her BSN and MSN from Pace and Lehman College. She specialized in pediatrics and

emergency nursing and was a nursing supervisor in Harlem Hospital's ER department where she taught advanced cardiac life support to the EMS and ER team for all of New York City's HHC Hospitals.

She came to Hostos in 1992 where she taught every subject in the Nursing department over the course of more than twenty years. She is credited with starting the LPN program in 1999 with the late Professor Hinds.

Although presently grieving, colleagues of Professor Toote shared that above all she was a friend, who shared her plate of food to anyone and everyone, and loved Hostos so much that she would come early in the morning and leave late at night.

Peace,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.  
Interim President

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.  
He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever.

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