



A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PRESIDENT

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.

To the Hostos Family:



It with is the greatest sorrow that I share the news of the loss of Dr. Alfredo Villanueva, who for three decades was a much-loved and highly-respected member of our community. Dr. Villanueva's years of service to Hostos began in 1972 and ended with his retirement in 2003.

During my earlier time here as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, it was my privilege to share happier news concerning Dr. Villanueva: in 2002 he was designated as a Faculty Fellow in Academic Affairs for the 2002-2003 school year. As a Faculty Fellow, he worked with several academic entities on designing the General Educational Curriculum for the College's Liberal Arts Degree.

This was only one of many tasks he was amply suited to undertake. Educated at the University of Puerto Rico, where he received B.A. and MA degrees in English, he continued his studies at SUNY Binghamton, where he earned a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature. He served twice as Chair of the College Senate and as Chair of the English Department. A widely-published poet and author, he was the recipient of three Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. These and other achievements speak to his talents and wide-ranging interests.

As the English poet John Donne so poignantly expressed it, no human being is an island because we all share a common fate, and the death of any one of us diminishes us all. We are diminished by Dr. Villanueva's death, but our loss is balanced by the huge gift of his presence, his scholarship, his warmth – in short, the sum total of a life well-lived.

We hold the Villanueva family in our hearts and hope their memories of him will serve as a balm and a comfort in this time of pain. We cherish his contributions to Hostos, and we mourn the passing of a noble spirit.

In sadness,

Mil gracias y bendiciones,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.
Interim President

**Office of the President
Hostos Community College**

475 Grand Concourse, A-Building, Room 341, Bronx, NY 10451
718-518-4300 | PRESIDENTSOFFICE@hostos.cuny.edu

