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Lisette Camilo, DCAS Commissioner
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BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARTNERS WITH NYC FLEET

KEITH T. KERMAN

On March 15, NYC Fleet finalized an MOU to support the Automotive Technology Division at Bronx Community College (BCC) with used hybrid vehicles, formerly operated by DSNY, for use in training and education programs. These will be the school's first hybrid units available for hands-on diagnosis and testing. BCC is now the seventh public school and first college program that NYC Fleet is supporting with vehicle donations. Fleet also supports automotive training programs and internships at six public high schools.

Led by Director of Automotive Technology Clement Drummond, BCC offers degree and certificate programs that train students for careers as automotive technicians, mechanics and specialists.

In November 2015, Fleet also participated in a conference on sustainable design at the BCC's Center for Sustainable Energy and Design. DCAS participated in a panel on transport along with MTA, DOT, TriState Biodiesel, Hunts Points Energy, Yorkville Capital, Sandia National Lab, FYT Fuel, and Bronx Community College.

Many thanks to Clement Drummond and to Dr. Aaron Socha, Director of the Center for Sustainable Energy, for partnering with Fleet. We look forward to growing this relationship as we move forward.

Automotive Technology



FLEET SPOTLIGHT: HARINI VENKATESH OF DOE

MAHANTH S. JOISHY

Fleet has formed a strong partnership with the Department of Education's Career & Technical Education (CTE) program to place high school automotive students in hands-on internships at City shop floors and offices. Last summer, 50 students participated in this successful program, and fleet agencies are currently working with CTE to finalize the class of 2016. Many interns have also joined City service full-time in subsequent years. One of the key players in this partnership is Harini Venkatesh, Senior Director of Industry Engagement & Strategic Partnerships for CTE, and this week's Fleet Spotlight for Women's History Month.

Harini has been at DOE CTE for three years, and has been promoted twice. She is based at the Tweed Courthouse working citywide to bring in partners from the public sector and private sectors to create pipelines toward rewarding internships and full time jobs for students. Along with fleet and automotive, there are nine high-growth industries that Harini engages in total. In addition to the fleet internships, Harini coordinates for DOE staff and students to attend DCAS events such as the fleet show and fleet safety forum, while also working with DCAS to host the CTE Industry engagement meetings. These events are opening up direct job opportunities for NYC students.

Harini holds Master's degrees from MIT and University of Cambridge in England. She was also a special education teacher in London prior to joining DOE. Harini and her husband live in Brooklyn with their son and daughter, who both attend DOE public schools. "New York is one the most generous and philanthropic places where the business community sees the need to engage with our youth," said Harini. It also helps to have dedicated staff like Harini at DOE to make sure the students are given opportunities to reach their full potential.

