

## **Program Initiatives**

- Academic Advisement
- Mentoring
- Skill-Building Workshops
- Tutoring
- Work-Study Opportunities

## **December Calendar**

#### December 9th -

- Budgeting Workshop2:30pm-3:30pm
- End of Semester Social3:30pm-5pm

#### December 11th -

Convocation

#### December 16th-21st

Finals Blues - Study Sessions

## Hours of Operation Monday - Friday

9am - 5pm

#### **CONTACT US AT**

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Building IC-Room 220/221

## The Men's Center Overview

The Men's Center at the College of Staten Island is dedicated to empowering historically underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students by improving retention and graduation rates. The Men's Center provides the necessary support to help students achieve their educational goals and graduate.

# **NEWSLETTER**

Volume 1 Fall 2025

## **Meet The Founding Director**



Dr. Meche

Dr. John Meche is the Director of the Men's Center – Black Male Initiative and advisor to the Black Student Union at CSI. He is a product of the CUNY System, having graduated from Hostos, John Jay, and Baruch. Entering his 9th year at CSI, Dr. Meche believes that students participating in programming at the Men's Center are not a monolith. It is that understanding that creates trust and a sense of belonging. Meche advises and mentors all students at the Men's Center. He believes that if it were not for his mentor, Dr. Nestor Montilla, he would not be in the position that he is today, leading the Men's Center. Special thanks to Dr. Peetz, Dr. Hodge, Dr. Wesley, and Dr. Manifold for believing in his vision.

## <u>Mentoring Impact</u>

I became involved with the Men's Center in the spring of 2023 after being introduced to it by my sociology professor, Dr. Meche. During a research assignment titled "My Block," I struggled with APA formatting, and he assured me that I would develop stronger research skills by the end of the semester. Over time, we built a meaningful academic relationship, and he encouraged me to explore the Men's Center – Black Male Initiative (BMI).

I value mentorship, and Dr. Meche has provided guidance in areas of my life where I need clarity. I also view the community within the Men's Center as a supportive family, offering perspectives and insight that complement what I receive at home.



Justin Mason Economics `26

The purpose of this monthly newsletter is to report on best practices and student experiences at the Men's Center. It is also worth noting that all programming at the Men's Center is open to all students.