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**BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SHIV KUMAR THAKUR
NAMED TO PRESTIGIOUS 29 *WHO SHINE* RECIPIENTS ON FRIDAY, MAY 4**

Shiv Kumar Thakur, of Fall River, Massachusetts, has been named Bristol Community College's 29 *Who Shine* recipient for 2018. Each year, the Department of Higher Education honors a representative from each of the 29 public colleges and universities who demonstrate the talent and future contributions of those graduating from the public system.

Shiv Kumar Thakur came to the United States from Nepal by himself at 19 years old on a lottery visa with ambition and a vision. He quickly enrolled, simultaneously, in the college's English as a Second Language (ESL) and college-level science and mathematics courses, in addition to supporting his education with two part-time jobs.

During his time at BCC, Shiv has earned several academic awards, scholarships and distinctions including participation in the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the college's Commonwealth Honors program. As a supplemental instructor and tutor at BCC, he supports his peers in both mathematics and science, and is known throughout the college community for his willingness to lend a helping hand. Shiv has also served his community by promoting the value of education and lifelong learning as a student senator, student ambassador, a volunteer with the Greater Boston Mobile Food Market at BCC, vice president of both the Multicultural Club and Asian Student Association, a member of the college's International Club and STEM Club.

Shiv will pursue a bachelor's degree through a doctorate in chemical engineering with the goal of becoming a chemical engineer in the state of Massachusetts.

In May 2011, the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education launched *29 Who Shine*. The honorees, chosen because of their academic achievements and record of student leadership and community service, stand poised to contribute greatly to the civic life and economic well-being of the state. Whether furthering their education or entering careers here in Massachusetts in fields as diverse as education, public policy, medicine, creative arts and engineering, they embody the vibrant future that we all envision for the Commonwealth.

About Bristol Community College

Bristol Community College is a leading resource for education and workforce development in Southeastern Massachusetts. BCC has locations in Fall River, Attleboro, New Bedford, and Taunton, along with flexible online offerings that lead to an associate degree, a career-ready certificate, or the ability to seamlessly transfer to baccalaureate colleges throughout the state and country.

The College's Center for Workforce and Community Education provides customized training for businesses and the community including healthcare, workforce and sustainable initiatives, and corporate services.

The BCC Foundation, a non-profit organization utilizing community donations and partnerships, supports the College's mission to meet the lifelong educational needs of the community. For more information, visit <http://www.bristolcc.edu/about>.