

## **Downs Named Assistant Women's Soccer Coach**

Written by Whitney Noble

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Brittany Downs has been named the new assistant women's soccer coach at Lees-McRae College, announced head coach Nick Whiting Monday. "I am excited to welcome Brittany to Lees-McRae," praised Whiting. "She is a great addition to our program and brings a ton of energy and enthusiasm. Her previous experience is going to serve as a great asset to Lees-McRae and she is going to be an excellent role model for our players. I am very excited to have her on board and can't wait to begin working with her."

A native of Orlando, Fla., Downs joins the Bobcats after a successful four-year playing career beginning at SUNY Stony Brook on Long Island, N.Y. and then at Southeast Region foe, Mars Hill College. While at Mars Hill, she was named to the all-South Atlantic Conference First team as a defender, as well as a two year captain.

"I am excited to join the Lees-McRae family," said Downs. "I'm looking forward to growing with the women's soccer program, and I hope I can help build on the success that has been established over the last several years."

Downs brings a tremendous amount of coaching and professional playing experience with her Lees-McRae, having three seasons for the Orlando Surge of the Women's Premier Soccer League. She also served as the assistant women's soccer and conditioning coach for the University of Puerto Rico at Bayamon, as well as the assistant coach for the under-16 girls in Puerto Rico National Elite League 2010-2011.

She most recently served as the head coach of Orlando, Fla. schools with Euro Soccer schools, organizing and delegating elementary schools and preschools, while leading other coaches in both camp style and small group sessions. Downs holds coaching licenses at almost every level, including a D-level National license from the United States Soccer Federation and a personal training license through the International Sports Sciences Association.

**Photo Courtesy: Brittany Downs, LMC Athletics**