

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate

March 11, 2008

Learning Academies:

We continue to seek input on the organization of the six Academies. Dr. King and his colleagues in Academic Affairs have put together teams for each of the Learning Academies that will further mold our implementation strategy. These groups will:

- a) Determine whether additional personnel should be invited to participate as key planners.
- (b) Establish a strategic procedure for communicating planning issues with and receiving consultation from all faculty/staff stakeholders in the proposed Liberal Arts Academy.
- (c) Identify criteria and recommend procedures for the selection of a faculty coordinator for each of the Learning Academies.
- (d) Identify which two of the five available High-Impact Learning Experiences* will be incorporated into each Academy. (*Each Academy will be expected to ensure that all first-time, full-time freshmen have—over the course of a student's first 30 credits at the College—at least two High-Impact learning Experiences, chosen from: e-Portfolio, Freshman Seminar [cornerstone course], Learning Communities, Service Learning, and/or Writing Intensive Courses.)
- (e) Communicate and coordinate work with personnel from the Student Affairs Division who will engage in parallel planning for the mentoring and student services functions that are to be provided with the various Academies.

Subsequent tasks will be to participate with the identified Academy coordinator in working with department chairs, faculty, and—where appropriate—student affairs personnel to organize, schedule, implement, and assess the academic initiatives of the Academy-based Freshman-Year Experience.

As I have indicated in the past, this spring we will engage in as much discussion as possible to create an implementation plan. This summer and next fall we will ready the physical spaces for each academy and we will begin to formulate the marketing plan. Next spring, we will market the Learning Academies concept and inform every first-time, full-time student of the requirement.

Middle States Visit:

Many thanks to all the people who are working so hard at preparing a Self-Study. I am delighted that we are having the **Open Hearings** and that input is being sought to make this an open and forthright document. It is important, however, that we temper our constructive criticism with the realization of what is good about our College. As I am fond of saying, we have an extraordinary institution, and sometimes our very uniqueness makes it difficult for outside evaluators to understand the high degree of excellence that exists at Queensborough Community College. Let's make certain that, while being honest about our weaknesses, we are also proud of our accomplishments.

Met Life/Jobs for the Future Award:

While we were selected as **one of six colleges nationwide** for consideration to receive this prestigious award we **did not win**. It goes to show that when outside evaluators compare us at the national level, we need to do a much better job of demonstrating the elements that make us excellent. I know, in my heart, that as a serious academic institution we stand head and shoulders above others. We will try again for this award in the future.

Budget:

Nothing much has changed. I will be testifying on February 28 at the Higher Education Committee meeting of the NYC Council and, shortly, we will unveil a plan of action asking for your help in this legislative session.

I testified at the Borough President's Budget Hearing on February 19th. At that time, I put our position forward requesting \$1 million to complete the matching of \$3 million that we have from the State and \$2 million from prior City Council allocations for a total of \$6 million. This will complete the funding necessary for Phase I of the Central Dining Facility (doming of the courtyard of the Science Building). Phase II (\$5.6 million) and Phase III (\$3 million) will provide the \$14.5 million needed to complete the entire project.

On February 16th, I represented Queensborough Community College at the CUNY Black and Puerto Rican Legislator's Luncheon in Albany. The luncheon was attended by many legislative luminaries, including Governor Spitzer. The case for CUNY was heard.

Now, we must organize the local and Albany visitations. I will be reaching out to some of you to help me in these visitations. If you are willing to participate, please send me (copy Millie and Rosemary Zins) an email.

Fund Board of Directors:

At its last meeting, the QCC Fund Board elected the following individuals as Directors: Tim Noble, Vice President, J.P. Morgan Chase; Gary Schulze, Sr. Advisor, Interagency Counter Terrorism Task Force, MTA; Ocelia Claro, consultant.

Partners for Progress:

We are almost half way to our goal of \$250,000. Please plan to attend at the half-price cost of \$125 per ticket for QCC faculty and staff. Invite your friends and take advantage of the free ticket offer when you sell \$500 in Journal ads or tickets.

Congratulations to our Women's Basketball Team on advancing to the Region V Tournament!