

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
of The City University of New York

*Report of the President*  
to the  
Academic Senate

**April 12, 2011**

**Budget/Enrollment**

Several circumstances impacted our enrollment in Spring 2011. This, in turn, led to a decline in revenue (tuition collected), placing some stress on the budget. Prudent planning minimized the effect for the remainder of this academic year. However, the New York State budget for CUNY, and especially the community colleges (funded through a formula based on full time enrollments), will significantly reduce the base allocation to our college for FY 12. This reduction is in addition to the omission of authorization to recognize the proposed FY 12 tuition increase in the state budget which would allow colleges to retain revenues of approximately \$40 million. Also, proposed budget reductions to CUNY community colleges by New York City will negatively affect resources available to us for FY 12. At this time, proposed cuts to the mayor's allocation for CUNY community colleges total over 26 million dollars. CUNY officials and CC presidents are meeting with NYC Council members to seek restoration of these funds, as well as for support of our capital projects for critical maintenance. To generate additional revenue to offset these budget cuts, an aggressive recruitment and enrollment plan is underway for summer 2011 and fall 2011 semesters. With the support of our campus community, we hope to increase our summer enrollment, and return to Fall 2010 enrollment numbers. With consideration of proposed budget cuts by NYS and NYC, and our enrollment projections, the FY 12 Planning and Resource Allocation Process to develop an expenditure plan for a balanced budget began several weeks ago. This process will include consultation with campus constituencies, including the Cabinet, the Special Committee of the Academic Senate, the CAPC (with representatives from the FEC, the AS Steering Committee, the senior administration, and the SGA), and the academic department Chairpersons.

**Remediation**

As student access, retention, performance and timely degree completion are major issues for our University, studies of remediation and articulation are under review by the Central Office. Chancellor Goldstein, in his remarks during his visit to the campus on March 30, noted our struggles with these issues. The work of our faculty to conduct research, and develop/implement innovative approaches to remediation in reading, writing and mathematics continues to be vital, especially as a review of these factors in our student success is underway at the University. The growing external pressure for rational change to improve student learning outcomes and timely degree completion in an environment of limited resources requires significant and immediate pedagogical changes in the delivery of developmental skills instruction. Over this last year, faculty in the Departments of

Mathematics and Basic Educational Skills have been supported to develop innovative change, with the goal of achieving major improvements in student learning outcomes.

### **Governance**

- Last month, Professor Alex Tarasko was elected to serve as the Chair of the Faculty Executive Committee. Professor Tarasko succeeded Dr. Sheena Gillespie, who retired in January. In May, The Faculty Executive Committee will hold elections for a member of the FEC as well as for membership on a number of other committees including, Academic Review, Academic Freedom, Student Discipline, the Queensborough Student Association and Queensborough Auxiliary Enterprises, Inc. Board.
- Elections for members of the Academic Senate Committees will take place in the next few weeks. These important elections will be conducted by the Academic Senate Committee on Committees.
- The Queensborough Student Association held its elections for Student Government, with strong participation in the electronic voting process. Congratulations to Mr. Oluwadamisi (Kay) Atanda who was elected President. Other successful candidates were Leilani Blira-Koessler, Executive Vice President; Zin New Aung (Cherry), Administrative Vice President; Grahn Cooledge, Treasurer; Robin Christian, Programming Vice President; Marilyn Rodriguez, Vice President for Evening Students; Nekesha St. Rose, Vice President for Part-Time Students; and Hasan Ozian, Senator At-Large.
- The Faculty Executive Committee's eighth Conference of the College, "Expanding Borders of the Classroom" was held Friday, March 25. Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alexandra Logue was a guest. She engaged in a constructive dialogue with our faculty on the Pathways project which incorporates discussions on articulation and the general education initiative.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Our annual Partners for Progress Gala will be held on Thursday, April 28, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Terrace on the Park in Flushing Meadow. Our own Dr. Sheena Gillespie will be honored as the Academic Partner, and I hope that everyone will consider attending this party. Proceeds support scholarships for new and continuing students.
- The annual Honors Convocation is scheduled for Tuesday, May 31.
- Our 50<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremonies will be held on Friday, June 3. Professor Ed Brumgnach will lead our students, faculty and HEOs as Grand Marshal. All faculty and HEOs are invited to participate. Orders for academic attire can be placed until Thursday, May 5.
- Mr. Mark Kupferberg, a member of the Queensborough Community College Fund, Inc., our foundation, will be a panelist at the CUNY Philanthropy Forum on April 21. Philanthropy is an important element of the CUNY Compact, our approach to responsible self support in conjunction with state and city funding.