



Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate
April 8, 2014

Enrollment

Recruitment activities and application processing for the Fall 2014 semester are well underway. As of the end of March 2014, there is a 2% increase in the number of students admitted to the College which has us on schedule to meet our overall new student enrollment goal.

Summer and Fall 2014 academic advisement began on March 17, 2014. Please encourage students to schedule an appointment with an advisor as soon as possible. The Office of Academy Advisement has a goal to advise all continuing students by May 30, 2014.

Registration for Summer Session and Fall 2014 (for continuing and visiting students) will begin this Friday, April 11th. Summer Session is the ideal time for students to keep themselves on track towards a timely graduation. A multi-media advertising campaign is currently underway to encourage students to register for our summer classes.

Starfish Update

A new feature available in Starfish is photographs of students on the attendance rosters. Our IT staff are currently testing the Blackboard building block against the Starfish and Blackboard development environments. This is a major step toward a larger scale test, after which we expect to be able to open Starfish directly to students.

The Starfish Early Alert Progress Surveys are being sent out only three times this semester, but faculty members can raise flags, kudos and referrals at any time. Starfish activity for items raised between February 3 and March 25, 2014, is summarized as follows: The first set of surveys was sent to faculty teaching 1,954 individual courses; responses came from 35% of the courses and from 34% of individual faculty members, full and part-time. A total of 16,809 flags, kudos, and referrals were raised for 5,214 individual students, or 33% of the 15,973 enrolled this term. Sixty-nine percent of the alerts were flags (for attendance or academic performance); 18% were kudos (primarily "keep up the good work"), and 13% were referrals. The referrals were primarily to the four learning centers: 40% to Math Center, 21% to the Student Learning Center, 16% to the Campus Writing Center, and 13 % to the Academic Literacy Learning Center.

Financial Aid/Scholarships/Grants

The 2014 - 2015 Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is currently available on-line for students and families to begin the application process now. Currently enrolled students who plan to register for summer and/or fall 14 seeking NYS or Federal financial aid, must re-submit their FAFSA by Friday, April 25th.

The Fall 2014 Continuing Student Academic Merit Scholarship is still available for eligible students to apply. The deadline for students to submit their application online is Thursday, April 10th. Please note that the value of the scholarship has increased to \$1,000 per semester. Visit QCC's scholarship webpage at www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships to learn about this and other exciting scholarship opportunities.

Effective Spring 2014, The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation has awarded QCC a three-year grant, of up to \$100,000 per year, for the next three years. Ms. Ellen Hartigan, Vice President for Student Affairs, recently sent the College community information (along with an application) for students to secure these funds. Ms. Veronica Lukas, Director of Student Financial Services, will serve as Grants Manager for this campus initiative. Please forward names of students with short-term financial emergencies to Ms. Lukas at your earliest convenience.

CUNY recently announced the Guttman Transfer Scholarship for high achieving community college graduates transferring to Brooklyn College, City College, Hunter College, Lehman College, or Queens College. Approximately 65 QCC students applied for this distinction. We wish our applicants all the best in securing one of these awards. Dr. Emily Tai (History) is our representative on the selection committee.

Faculty and Staff

Laura Bruno, QCC's Director of Enrollment Management, has been named Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management. In addition to oversight of the Office of Admissions and Recruitment, Laura will provide strategic direction and leadership for the College's Student Enrollment Services, including the Office of Academy Advisement, Office of Testing, and the Office of Health Services. Laura will continue to serve in her capacity as the Chair of Queensborough's Enrollment Management Team.

Ms. Christine Francavilla, is QCC's new College Bursar. Over her career, Christine worked in student services areas, most recently at LIU where she was the Director of Financial Aid Counseling, overseeing the cross training of the combined Financial Aid and Bursar counseling staffs. She also served as the liaison to LIU's extension campuses, and to LIU's academic departments. Christine also has experience overseeing Endowed scholarships, TAP certification and R2T4. While at LIU, Christine was an adjunct in the English Department for eight years teaching freshman writing courses, and served as a Writing Coach for students applying for the J.K. Watson Fellowship Award. Christine holds a B.S. in Communication Arts from St. John's University and a M.A. in Liberal Studies from New York University.

Mr. Weedens E. Blanchard has been appointed to serve as Interim Director of Academy Advisement. Weedens joins us from St. John's University where he recently served as an Assistant Dean and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Educational Technology. Woody has 15 years of higher education experience which includes Academic Advisement, Student Support Services and Adult Education. He holds a B.S. degree in Computer Science, M.B.A. in Executive Management, and a Professional Diploma in Instructional Leadership from St. John's University.

Dr. Carol J. Alleyne has been appointed to serve as Associate Director of Academy Advisement. Most recently, she served as the Dean of Advisement at the Brooklyn campus of Berkeley College. Dr. Alleyne holds an Ed.D. in Executive Leadership from St. John Fisher College, as well as a B.S. in Marketing and a M.S. in Education from St. John's University.

Student Awards/Honors

Eun Jung Shin, a second-year chemistry student, will be joining the 2014 Summer Hope Academic Research Program (SHARP) at Hope College in Michigan, where she will gain familiarity with photo chemistry reactions of colored compounds. On the heels of officially accepting her internship position with Hope College, she was also accepted to participate in the Chancellor's Education Pipeline Biomedical Research Award Program at Stony Brook this summer. It is extremely rare for a student to be accepted to two such high caliber internship programs. Though Eun Jung will be attending Hope College, she was also very honored to have been accepted into the Pipeline Biomedical Research Award Program at Stony Brook. Adding to Eun Jung's already impressive achievement is the news that both she and her sister, Hyo Jung Shin, also a second-year chemistry student at QCC, have been notified that their abstracts—based on research they conducted together at the Department of Environmental Protection during the summer of 2013—have been accepted for presentation at the Spring 2014 Columbia Undergraduate Science Journal's Symposium to be held on April 20 at Columbia University. Our STEM Academy students have been extraordinarily successful with the NSF-REU experiences. The acceptance rate for summer research internships is selective—only about 10%--and those students are typically upper classmen from four-year colleges and universities. Congratulations to Eun Jung, Hyo Jung Shin and their mentors, Drs. Paris Svoronos and Jung Shin on such outstanding accomplishments!

In other exciting news, we applaud our dance students in the VAPA Academy who participated in the prestigious American College Dance Festival's Northeast Regional Conference at SUNY Brockport, which was held from March 12-16. Their performance pieces were singled out as "outstanding" by representatives from Adelphi University, Montclair State University, Long Island University (LIU) Brooklyn, and the University of Illinois. Bravo to our talented students and their mentors and choreographers, Professors Emily Berry and Aviva Geismar!

Congratulations are in order for two members of QCC's Lambda Sigma Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. Ms. Yueting Chen and Ms. Lida Ramos

Arce have been named to the 2014 All-New York Academic Team in recognition of their scholarly achievements.

Mr. Stephen Jones, President of Student Government, and Ms. Lida Ramos Arce, Executive Vice President, have been named QCC's award recipients for the CUNY Vice Chancellor's Excellence in Leadership Awards. In May, they will be honored at a luncheon ceremony at The Great Hall of The City College of New York.

Once again, an impressive number of QCC candidates for graduation are seeking admission to CUNY four-year institutions as well as some highly selective colleges and universities including: University of Pennsylvania, Cornell, New York University, Columbia, Dartmouth College, SUNY Binghamton, SUNY Stony Brook, Harvard, George Washington University, Bowdoin, and University of Miami.

Military Veterans on Campus

To ensure a smooth transition from the military to higher education, a campus Task Force for Military Transitional Services has been established as part of our college wide effort to support military veteran students. Advisory to our military veterans resource team, led by Kevin Stevens, the Task Force will focus on identifying and addressing issues which could pose an obstacle to the academic success and degree completion of our military veteran students. Specifically, the group will identify primary issues facing our military veteran students and their families, offer recommendations to address impediments to their academic success, and facilitate resolutions on their behalf. Inaugural members of the Task Force are Professor Stu Asser, Dean Laura Bruno, Ms. Adrienne Crosson, Dr. Mona Fabricant, Vice President Bill Faulkner, Ms. Stephanie Gonzalez, Mr. Carlos Herrera, Professor Bob Keuper, Dr. Paul Jean-Pierre, Ms. Linda Ostrowe, Provost Michael Reiner, Professor Alex Tarasko, and a student veteran representative.

Strategic Plan for 2014-15

Our strategic planning is a year-long process, culminating in late June, when the plan is submitted to the University. As in past years, focus groups with chairpersons, HEOs, and students have occurred, and each has provided input and comment. The final meetings of the year with the College Advisory Planning Committee are scheduled for April 23 and May 20. In addition, *open hearings* inviting all members of the campus community are scheduled on Wednesday, April 30, and Thursday, May 1. Email invitations have been sent out to the campus community to attend one of the two sessions scheduled. Input and comment on the plan (in person or via email) are welcome.

FY 15 Budget Update

QCC's 2014–15 (FY 15) Resource Planning and Allocation process is now underway. The FY 15 budget is expected to be challenging due to lower anticipated enrollment and reductions in State and City support (-1.3 and -1.4%, respectively) offset by the planned annual tuition increase. We need to closely monitor anticipated student enrollment, mindful that 100 fewer full-time students approximates a loss of almost \$500,000 in

tuition revenue and student fees. Our Resource Planning and Allocation process includes the development and review of budget proposals consonant with the College's Strategic Plan and the University Master Plan. Budget proposals are developed at the department level and then advanced for consideration by the appropriate vice president. The process will include a review of the FY 15 budget plan by the Academic Senate Budget Advisory Committee, the Budget Subcommittee of the College Planning and Budget committee, and the College Advisory Planning Committee. These reviews are expected to take place in May. We are planning to tighten the budget preparation and College approval process timeline to provide departments with preliminary operating budgets in early July, however, we expect to receive a final FY 15 budget from the University later in the Summer after the City enacts its FY 15 budget.

Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)

QCC's periodic review report (PRR) is due to Middle States on June 1. A full draft of the report will soon be available for review and comment on the website. An email will be sent out with links to the report and to a site for comment and feedback. The comment period will remain open throughout the rest of the month. In addition, open forums will be scheduled for the campus community to convey information about the periodic review process and the contents of the report and to provide opportunity for discussion and feedback.

Early College Initiative Update

Recruitment and Marketing: The name of the high school was approved by the NYC Department of Education. It is *Business Technology Early College HS (BTECH)*. The DOE Round 2 recruitment of public school students for the inaugural Fall 2014 9th grade class opened on Saturday and Sunday, March 15th and 16th with follow-up Open Houses sponsored by each of the high schools in NYC still accepting students. Three BTECH Open Houses were held the week of March 16th, one at the Lighthouse in Manhattan, one at the Greenwich Village SAP office, and one on the QCC Campus. Representatives from the DOE, SAP and QCC attended all five events and they spoke to over 500 students and their families about the new model high school/college. As of Monday, March 24th, 326 students had listed BTECH as their high school choice, with 100 to be selected by the DOE for enrollment. The formal process to recruit high school teachers has not yet begun, but Ms. Hoa Tu, (the prospective principal) is holding informal conversations with potential candidates for the DOE teaching positions.

The BTECH website went live: www.btechnyc.org and the BTECH blog also went live and can be found on the QCC website under the About Us tab and the Early College Initiative button. Other marketing media are under discussion, including a whiteboarding video.

Curriculum Planning: the B Tech Curriculum Planning subcommittee continues its work in skills mapping with discussions of elective courses in the core portions of each degree and discussions of pre-college developmental programming. To ensure all students are prepared for college level work by the spring semester of year three of their six year program when college courses are targeted to begin, several pre-college

courses are being explored. The committee is also considering courses that are transferrable knowing that there may be students who want to immediately continue their higher education. Several more members of the business technology workforce were interviewed to identify the skills they deem as important to do their jobs. Members of the committee met with the Service Learning office and with the chair and faculty from Academic Literacy. They also met with the chair of the Speech and Theatre Arts department to discuss inclusion of SP 211 and also programs in Speech Remediation. Future meetings with chairs are planned as well as with teachers and directors of CLIP and CUNY Start. Five faculty members of the committee are traveling to the SAP University Alliance professional development conference on March 26th to learn the use of SAP applications and certifications in their college programs from other higher education professors around the globe. The ECI Steering Committee received updates from the subcommittees, and discussed budget planning, personnel, facilities and other items. The search for a QCC student representative to the ECI Planning Committee is underway, and the formal search for a College Liaison to the B Tech High School will be conducted this spring by QCC.

Upcoming Events

- The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center is sponsoring the screening of *The Road to Treblinka*, a film chronicling the mass killings in occupied territories after the invasion of the Soviet Union. All are welcome to attend this event at the KHRCA on Friday, April 11 at 12 pm.
- Lorraine Cupelli, Assistant Professor in Nursing at Queensborough, will present a seminar entitled, "Developing Cultural Sensitivity and Awareness" at the KHRCA on Wednesday, April 23rd from 12:30 pm to 2 pm. This lecture is aimed at nursing students as well as those interested in the health fields. The focus will be on developing cultural sensitivity and awareness and bridging cultural gaps to foster improved health outcomes.
- The Office of Academic Service Learning, along with Student Activities and Student Government, will again sponsor an Earth Day Celebration on Wednesday, April 23 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the Loggia and on the Great Lawn. This event is open to the QCC community and students from local high schools. Themes highlighted include sustainable energy, the environment, and health.
- All faculty and staff are invited to QCC's annual fundraising gala "Partners for Progress" on Thursday, April 24 at Terrace on the Park. This year's honoree is Barry L. Pulchin, Class of 1966, Member and Director of Forensic Accounting and Valuation Services of Prager Metis CPAs, as our Alumni Partner of the Year. We also applaud generous gifts from Professor Emeritus Jackson Lum and Muriel Lum, and Professor Emeritus, the late Dr. Pak Kuen Wong. Endowments have been established in each of their names to provide scholarships in perpetuity for students at Queensborough Community College. All funds raised through our Gala support scholarships to Queensborough students, as well as our educational resources and student learning laboratories the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center & Archives

(KHRCA), the QCC Art Gallery and the Queensborough Performing Arts Center (QPAC). Tickets are still available at \$300.

- On display until April 30th at the QCC Art Gallery is an exhibition of paintings by The Emotionalists who have exhibited internationally. The artists' styles vary from pure abstraction to classical realism. The curator of the show and an exhibiting artist, Beata Szpura, teaches painting and drawing at Queensborough Community College.
- One of the most anticipated events of the spring is QCC's Asian Cultural Festival, on Wednesday, April 30, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. in SUL. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the Asian Cultural Festival is cosponsored by our Student Government Association, Asian Society, CSTEP Club, Foreign Language Society, Haitian Club, International Student Club, Motor Club, Newman Club and the Port of Entry program. All are cordially invited to join this celebration featuring live performances, arts/crafts and food.
- The Department of Art & Design's sixth annual Juried Student Exhibition featuring select works from Queensborough Community College's Art and Design students will run from May 8 to June 16.
- As part of "The Music of the Holocaust" series, the KHRCA will present a workshop at 1 pm on Monday, May 12th in which participants will listen to and discuss music created by Jewish musicians in the ghettos and camps during World War II. Adjunct Professor Leona Schwab of QCC's Music Department is heading this initiative which has brought the music of the Holocaust to a number of venues including the 92nd Street Y, Molloy College and senior centers in the New York Metropolitan area.
- Queensborough's 53rd Commencement Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 30, 2014. Faculty members and HEOs are encouraged to participate in this event, which is so very meaningful to our graduates and their families. Those participating in the commencement ceremony may order their academic attire through the QCC Commencement Webpage at www.qcc.cuny.edu/commencement. The deadline for ordering academic attire is Monday, April 28th.
- On exhibit in the QCC Art Gallery from May 1 through June 29 is an exhibit artwork by residents of Venture House. This project is the outcome of a collaboration between the QCC Department of Nursing and Venture House to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and increase community awareness of mental health. This is the second exhibition at QCC by Venture House artists.
- Noted documentary photographer Robert Nickelsberg's photographs will be on display at the QCC Art Gallery from June 19 to September 10. The exhibit called Afghanistan: A Distant War, will focus on the day-to-day consequences of war, poverty, oppression, and political turmoil in Afghanistan.