



Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate
March 11, 2014

Enrollment

- Current students who plan to register for summer and/or fall 14 seeking New York State or Federal financial aid, must re-submit their FAFSA by Friday, April 25th. 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.
- Summer and Fall 2014 academic advisement begins March 17, 2014. Faculty and staff are asked to 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 (for continuing and visiting students) and the Fall 2014 semester will begin Friday, April 11, 2014. Summer Session is the ideal time for students to keep themselves on track towards a timely graduation. A multi-media advertising campaign is underway to encourage QCC students as well as students home for the summer from private and SUNY colleges to register for our summer classes. Please note the summer session will begin several days later than usual to accommodate a strong enrollment in our summer classes by our own and visiting students.

Starfish: *Early Alert*

- Faculty can help our students achieve academically! Research indicates that one method is to send students alerts early in the semester when there is need for improvement. This may spur them to seek out their adviser or go for tutoring. QCC's Starfish system allows faculty to send alerts about students in their class who are having academic difficulty. In Starfish, faculty raise flags or referrals through periodic class "progress surveys." Periodically over the semester, Faculty receive an announcement that the progress surveys are open. For Spring 2014 the periods are February 23rd - March 1st (fifth week of the term), March 23rd - 29th (ninth week of the term) and April 27th - May 3rd (twelfth week of the term). Please note the official withdrawal deadline is 4/24/14. Note there are only three surveys this term. However, you are welcome to use Starfish at other times. The system is configured to provide flexibility so that you may raise flags and/or referrals directly from your dashboard when you wish and, ideally, shortly after an exam.

- To date, QCC data indicates that students who receive an early alert and go for tutoring perform better than those who do not. You can also give students “kudos” via Starfish; everyone likes being recognized for their successes! If you are new to Starfish or want training in using it effectively, please watch for announcements from Mr. Ed Molina, the Starfish technical lead for Academic Affairs. Visit the QCC Starfish website for training dates, FAQs, and other documentation.

Student Retention

The Retention Management Team held a joint meeting with the Admissions Committee and the Committee on Course and Standing on January 31, 2014, to discuss recent data about several groups of students in academic difficulty, whose records these committees review each semester. As a result, several actions have already been taken: the Committee on Course and Standing is considering a recommendation about the Academic Alert category, the Admissions office and the Admissions Committee have established new procedures for students applying for readmission, and a professional staff member of the Registrar’s Office has launched mandatory workshops for all students on Academic Alert, Probation, and Continued Probation. The chairperson of each of these Senate committees (or a designee) has accepted the invitation to serve as an ex-officio member of the Retention Management Team.

Student Honors and Awards

QCC chemistry students Sandy Enriquez and Daysi Proano have been offered a position in the 2014 NSF-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. This summer program provides a 10-week intensive research experience that is limited to only the most outstanding undergraduate applicants. Each participating student will be trained by faculty members and graduate students who are experts in research areas in which their interests lie. In doing so, students will gain experience working on cutting-edge research projects. The University of Tennessee Summer REU experience is a very competitive program but their administrators knew about Sandy from her regional research presentations and paid for her registration, travel and lodging to present at the American Chemical Society Southeast Regional Meeting in Knoxville in January. Sandy, who will graduate from QCC this May, won top honors at that conference for her research presentation.

Queensborough was the only community college to participate in the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) Regional Tournament, held at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island, February 8-9. Our Mock Trial team came up against Ivy League schools Harvard and Yale as well as Rutgers, Wesleyan University and Iona College. In a highly competitive third round of the four-round tournament, Queensborough earned a tie with Brandeis University. Congratulations to the many faculty advisors/coaches, including Professor Ted Rosen of the Business Academy, who helped make this such a successful experience for our students.

In recent sports news, the 2014 CUNYAC Women’s Basketball Championship was awarded to our Lady Tigers! Congratulations to head coach David Chambers and to starter Shantana Kanhoye, who netted a total of 29 points in the championship game and was named the CUNYAC/Con Edison Tournament Most Valuable Player.

Opportunities and Resources for Students

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. The grant provides assistance to students with short term financial emergencies. 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 either Veronica Lukas, Director of Financial Services vlukas@qcc.cuny.edu or Denis Scalzo, Associate Director of Financial Services dscalzo@qcc.cuny.edu

It is that time of the year again! QCC's Single Stop Office is providing free tax preparation for students. Those interested can stop by the Student Union between now and April 15th. Please remind our students to visit the Single Stop Office (Library Building, Room 432A) for further details.

Scholarships!!! Eligible Continuing Students may apply for our Fall 2014 Academic Merit Scholarship of up to \$1000 a semester. Visit QCC's scholarship webpage at www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships to learn about this and other exciting scholarship opportunities.

The 2014-15 Student Government Elections will be conducted Friday, March 15th through Thursday, March 21st. Please urge our students to become informed about the candidates and exercise their right to vote by choosing QCC's next Student Government Association Board.

Faculty and Staff Honors and Awards

Congratulations to Interim Vice President Denise Ward, Continuing Education, and Professor Stu Asser, Engineering Technology, who have received a subcontract from Martin Van Buren High School as part of a three year, U.S. Department of Education School Improvement Grant. The College will receive \$300,246 each year to provide training to high school students in the areas of EMT, Patient Care Technician, and Pre-engineering.

Grant Awards and Opportunities

- *COMMUNITY COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE INCENTIVE RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM (C3IRG)* supports the collaborative research efforts of faculty at CUNY Community Colleges. The primary programmatic goal is to seed research that will form the basis for externally funded grant proposals. The C3IRG program is directed towards supporting and funding projects focusing on pedagogical research, although proposals from all disciplines are welcome. The program will fund one-year grants from September 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 with awards up to a maximum of \$15,000. Additional information can be found on CUNY's Internal Funding Programs website: <http://www.cuny.edu/research/faculty-resources/internal-funding-programs/community-college-grant>. The C3IRG application deadline is Friday, April 4th.

- The Samuel H. Kress Foundation Digital Resources Program is soliciting applications due April 1, 2014. The program supports the conversion of important existing information and visual resources to digital form, and for innovative experiments in the field of digital art history.
- The United States Air Force Research Laboratory Directed Energy Directorate seeks research proposals, with a rolling deadline through April 1, 2017. Eligible projects are energy-related basic, applied, and advanced research projects that are of interest to the Department of Defense.
- The National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America Fast-Track Program is soliciting applications due May 8, 2014. The program supports projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations. Grants are available for professional arts programming and for projects that emphasize the potential of the arts in community development.

Update on the Early College Initiative (ECI)

- *Curriculum Planning:* The ECI Curriculum Planning Subcommittee (which includes 7 QCC faculty members) continued its work in skills mapping and scope and sequence. Per required by NYSED, two drafts of the 6 year scope and sequence were submitted on February 14th – one for each of the identified degrees (our current associate degree programs in Computer Information Systems and Internet Technology). It is accepted that the scope and sequencing of high school courses will evolve as the high school curriculum evolves. The skills mapping data research for the two defined job areas, design solutions and development, is under way. Interviews of SAP employees in those areas were conducted and the responses were used to generate lists of concrete content and skills. In addition, several job descriptions from institutions in these technical areas were analyzed. The skills identified will be mapped to the courses for the high school curriculum. Trunk courses for the 2 majors were proposed, namely Speech 211 and a still to be determined Economics course. Work continues to identify the requisite Math and English courses. Four Queensborough faculty plan to attend the SAP Professional Development Conference in Atlanta on March 27 – 29.
- *Marketing and Recruitment for the ECI:* Branding materials such as logo, brochures and banners have been created, approved and submitted to be printed. These collateral materials will be used to recruit both students and high school teachers. Website creation began with the vendor, Edlio, with a preliminary conversation on layout and concepts. The domain name will be www.btechnyc.org. Tentative launch date is targeted for March 10th. Open houses to recruit students are scheduled for 3/18 at SAP and 3/20 at QCC. Additional open houses are planned at Martin Van Buren High School on the weekend of March 15 and 16, pending final approval by the NYC Department of Education Chancellor's Office.

Resource Allocation Planning for FY 15

Led by Interim Vice President Bill Faulkner, QCC's annual Resource Planning & Allocation Process for FY 15 is underway. In March, divisions and departments will be provided with historical information and templates to assist in preparing budget requests for the coming academic year. In keeping with our practices, this process is designed to ensure our resources support our highest priorities, as reflected in the Strategic Plan developed by the College Advisory Planning Committee. Please note, Strategic Plan initiatives will receive the highest

priority for discretionary funding. Through the respective Vice President, each Division will submit budget request proposals for new funding related to strategic priorities and operational needs. These proposals will be reviewed and prioritized by the Cabinet. The Budget Subcommittee of the Faculty P&B Committee and the Academic Senate Budget Advisory Committee will be consulted for their funding recommendations prior to our final expenditure plan for FY 15.

Upcoming Events

- The **Newly Tenured Faculty Reception** will take place on March 11, at 4:30 p.m. in the Oakland Dining Room. This year's reception will recognize 28 faculty colleagues from seven departments who were recently awarded Tenure or a Certificate of Continuous Employment.
- The multi-talented **David Alan Grier (DAG)**, whose career boasts spectacular successes in virtually all creative mediums, will bring his contagious laughter and thought-provoking comedy to the Queensborough Performing Arts Center (QPAC), on March 15 at 8:00 p.m.
- Students in the Department of Speech Communication and Theatre Arts will present **12 Angry Jurors**, at the Humanities Theatre now through March 14. A special \$1.00 matinee is being offered March 12 at 12:15 p.m. The play is by Reginald Rose, a renowned writer who attended City College in the early 1940's.
- The **Dean's List Ceremony and Celebration of Milestone** students (those completing 30 credits within their first year) will be held on Tuesday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Humanities Theatre. More than 1,500 students will be honored this year.
- Faculty, students and the community are invited to the Spring 2014 **Presidential Lecture Series**, featuring Dr. Jilani Warsi, Associate Professor in the Department of Academic Literacy. Dr. Warsi's lecture: *Comprehension without Instruction: The Complexities and Myths of Language Acquisition* will address language acquisition, Universal Grammar, and the myth that languages are learned through imitation. The Presidential Lecture will be held on March 19, at 4:30 p.m. in M-136. Faculty are encouraged to attend and to bring their classes.
- **Classicism and Exile: The Life and Work of Marcel Salinas** March 20-May 2, 2014
This exhibition at the QCC Art Gallery offers a retrospective of art created by Marcel Salinas, whose little known work belies a fascinating career that includes close ties to the circle of artists that pioneered modern art in Egypt. Throughout his life, he returned continually to the time-honored genres of still-life, nude, landscape and portrait, showing a rare commitment to technique and a profound understanding of light, color, and form. The exhibition, which will be the first retrospective of Salinas's work, will draw on the extensive archive left to the trustees of his estate, including sketchbooks, letters and other documents pertaining to his life. While the focus will be primarily on his paintings, his work as a

lithographer and as a photographer will be used as points of comparison and contrast, thus bringing into relief the richness of his visual world.

- The **Spring 2014 Faculty Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, March 26 from 12:10 to 2:10 PM in M 136. Sponsored by the Faculty Executive Committee, the program will include a panel discussion by several QCC faculty and staff on the opportunities and challenges of *on line instruction as a pedagogical strategy*. All faculty are encouraged to attend.
- Recipients of the **QCC Award for Excellence in Faculty Scholarship** are selected every two years. This award recognizes tenured faculty with a sustained and distinguished record of scholarship or creative performance, evidenced by publications, professional presentations, and/or creative works. The Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, April 1st at 4:30 p.m. in the Oakland Dining Room. This year's recipients are: Dr. Edmund Clingan (History), Dr. Jeffrey Jankowski (Social Sciences/Psychology), and Dr. Paul Marchese (Physics).
- The College's annual **Job Fair**, sponsored by the Office of Career Services, will take place on Wednesday, April 2nd from noon to 3:00 pm in the Student Union. Students should be appropriately dressed for a job interview and bring their resumes to present to prospective employers. Please encourage students to take advantage of this valuable opportunity to meet face-to-face with over 55 prospective employers.
- Queensborough's 53rd **Commencement** Ceremony will be held the morning of 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. Faculty and HEOs participating in the academic procession may order their academic attire through the QCC Commencement Webpage at www.qcc.cuny.edu/commencement. The deadline for faculty and HEOs to order academic attire is Monday, April 28th.
- The annual **Walk to Aspire** will take place on our athletic track Wednesday, May 7th at 1:00 p.m. To date, we have eight teams who have already started their fundraising, and we anticipate commitments from another 9-10 teams to raise funds for QCC student scholarships. This year, donors have the opportunity to designate their gifts to a specific Walk to Aspire team, thanks to a new and improved website. Teams can also choose to have the monies they raise go to any existing departmental scholarship of their choice.
- All Faculty and staff are invited to QCC's annual fundraising gala, "**Partners for Progress**" on Thursday, April 24 at Terrace on the Park. Honorees to date include Barry Pulchin, Class of 1966 who will be honored as the Alumni Partner of the Year. He graduated with an associate degree in accounting and then transferred to Baruch to earn his bachelor's degree. He credits Queensborough and its faculty for where he is today as the Director of Forensic Accounting and Valuation Services as well as the Chief Operating Officer of the Long Island Office of PragerMetis, a forensic accounting firm. Mr. Pulchin is also a Certified Public Accountant in New York, Connecticut, Florida and North Carolina. Additionally, we are in the final stages of confirming F&T Group as our Corporate Partner of the Year. F&T Group is a global development company that handles acquisitions, planning, design, development, construction and management of mixed use projects in China and New York City.

We will also be paying tribute to two former faculty members, Jackson Lum, Professor Emeritus in the ECET program and his wife, Muriel, as well as the recently deceased Dr. Pak Wong, former Chair of the Chemistry Department in recognition of the scholarship endowments that have been established in their names. We hope that you will join us. Please purchase your tickets within the next ten days, or by March 21st, to take advantage of the “Early Bird” rate for faculty and staff at \$125. After March 21st, tickets for faculty and staff will be \$150 (external supporters pay \$300 per ticket). Funds that are raised will be used to award scholarships to students so they can access, attend and complete a degree at Queensborough as well as to support Faculty Development, the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center & Archives (KHRCA), the QCC Art Gallery and the Queensborough Performing Arts Center (QPAC).