

**Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate**

December 9, 2014

Middle States

- We have received good news from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. At its board meeting on November 20, 2014, the Middle States Commission voted to accept the Periodic Review Report, to reaffirm accreditation, and to commend the institution for the quality of the Periodic Review Report. No follow-up of any kind is necessary until the next evaluation visit, which is scheduled for 2018-19. Our thanks to the PRR team that prepared the report—Arthur Corradetti, Linda Reesman, and Andrea Salis—and to all those whose input and support helped the team to prepare the report, with special thanks to Marc Carpentier for the chapter on enrollment, finance trends, and projections.

Enrollment Management Update

- Activity in Admissions is robust and early gains are holding steady. As of December 1, we have approximately 175 more new student deposits than last year at the same time. Admissions staffs are finishing up a successful Fall recruitment season, having visited all top feeder schools. Advisement continues in the Academies for both new and continuing students and the pace is steady. Plans are underway to move to the SUL on January 6, for peak registration activity.

Faculty and Staff: Awards and Honors

- A number of our faculty will be honored at CUNY's Annual Salute to Scholars Reception in December, celebrating recipients of research awards and fellowships from July 2013 through August 2014. Congratulations to Dr. Naydu Carmona (Biology), Dr. Tak David Cheung (Physics), Prof. Nicholas DiZinno (Engineering Technology), Dr. David Lieberman (Physics), Dr. Azita Mayeli (Mathematics), Dr. Julia Rothenberg (Social Sciences), Prof. Jeffrey Schwartz (Engineering Technology), Dr. Paul Sideris (Chemistry) and Dr. Monica Trujillo (Biology).

Grant Opportunities: Please contact the QCC Office of Sponsored Programs for additional information and assistance

- Applications for the *PSC-CUNY Research Awards Program* are due on December 15. The program supports activities in the creative arts and all academically relevant research in the areas of natural science, social science, and the humanities. All full-time members of the instructional staff are eligible to apply.

- *The Junior Faculty Research Awards in Science and Engineering (JFRASE)* aims to cultivate the excellence and ensure the promise of research-intensive, early career, science and engineering faculty at CUNY. The program has a submission deadline of January 6 and will fund five (5) one-year awards of \$50,000 each.
- Several national organizations offer grant support for faculty research and institutional initiatives: Applications for *The National Science Foundation 'Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE)'* are due January 15; *The National Endowment for the Humanities' 'Museums, Libraries, and Cultural Organizations'* applications are due January 14; *The National Science Foundation 'Research in Engineering Education'* grant applications are due January 22; *Applications for The National Science Foundation's Science, Technology, and Society Program* are due February 2; *Proposals to the FY 2015 Department of Defense Multidisciplinary Research Program of the University Research Initiative* are due February 23.

Students: Awards and Honors and Opportunities.

- To encourage timely degree completion, continuing QCC students that have completed between 26 and 29 credits towards their degree are eligible to receive a 2015 Winter scholarship for a credit course taken at QCC during the January intersession. The scholarships are intended to support a student reaching the “thirty- credit milestone” of his/her Queensborough degree within one calendar year. The student must have a minimum GPA of 2.75, and complete 30 credits at the end of the winter session. For additional information contact Dean Glenn Burdi in the Office of Academic Affairs.
- The STEM Support Expansion Program, included in the FY 2015 City budget, provides tuition waivers for students taking STEM courses in order to promote credit accumulation in a STEM curriculum while not jeopardizing their TAP eligibility. Students do not have to be enrolled in a STEM program in order to qualify, but must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and be enrolled for the upcoming spring semester at Queensborough. To date, over 200 applications have been approved. For additional information contact Dean Glenn Burdi in the Office of Academic Affairs.
- Congratulations to QCC students who won awards in the *Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS)* held November 12-16 in San Antonio, Texas. Ms. Joselin Vargas won in the Cancer Biology category with her research on, “The Novel Curcumin-Derivative Cmc2.24 Alone Or In Combination With Growth Factors Inhibitors Reduces Pancreatic Cancer Growth In Vitro”. Ms. Elsa Rosario won the Microbiology Award for her research on “Screening for Compensatory Evolution in Mutated $\phi 6$ Bacteriophage”. Mr. Stephan Smith won the Chemistry Award for his research on “Characterization of iron in *Petroselinum crispum (Parsley)* Using Mossbauer Spectroscopy”.

- This year Queensborough was fortunate to have a recent graduate, Sandy Enriquez, earn the ACS-Scholars Program award. This is the fifth time a QCC student has won this highly competitive honor, an unprecedented feat for a community college. Ms. Enriquez's highlights included more than 32 Honors credits in Chemistry, Biology and Calculus; summer research internships, and presentations at regional conferences.

BTECH

- Year one BTECH students are half way through their first semester. They have been very active during their freshman year, while still enrolled in a full courseload of high school classes, including Physics, Algebra, English, Introductions to Business and Technology, and US History. They have also begun a mentoring program. About 20 students will be visiting the QCC campus on December 9th with activities that include a service learning project in Professor Schwartz's classroom, a visit and tour of the Holocaust Resource Center, and attendance at the December Senate meeting at which students will give voice to their experiences while at BTECH.

FY 15 Strategic Plan

- Dean Arthur Corradetti continues work with the College Advisory Planning Committee to develop specific objectives and measurable outcomes for the college's FY 15 Strategic Plan. The proposed objectives, and activities to achieve them, will inform the resource allocation process for the next year. Focus groups and open hearings will be held this spring to allow the college community to provide final input.

Upcoming Events

- The annual New Faculty Institute will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2014 through Friday January 23, 2015 in CETL (L-313) from 10am to 3pm daily. A four-day informational session and workshop, the Institute provides new faculty with an entrée to an array of resources and best practices that are useful in their professional lives at the College, including high impact practices and the assessment of student learning.
- The dates for the new adjunct orientation for this spring semester are on February 2, 2015, 9 – 11am, and on February 5, 2015, 4 – 6pm.
- The Convocation of the College is an annual event held featuring new directions and innovations being discussed or occurring at the College, and the work of faculty in important initiatives across campus. The Convocation of the College is on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, 8:30am to 2pm in the Medical Building room 136. This year the convocation will emphasize the faculty tenure and promotion process.
- The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives (KHRCA) will be holding the Holocaust Internship Final Presentations on Thursday, January 8th at 12pm. Interns, that have completed a semester-long project on the Holocaust, will present their

understanding of the Holocaust and the impact it had upon its victims during World War II. The interns meet weekly to explore the issues of the Holocaust through readings, videos, group discussions and presentations by local Holocaust survivors.