



*Report of the President*

to the  
Academic Senate

**April 12, 2016**

### **Enrollment Update**

- The Enrollment Management team is fully focused on reaching our new and continuing enrollment targets for Fall 2016. Recruitment activity is robust, with particular emphasis on Queens and Nassau County. In addition to college fairs, our team of Admission recruiters are outreaching to their contacts in local high schools to provide assistance, updates and encourage applications to QCC. The Admissions Office has received approximately 10,000 new student applications representing three phases of freshmen and two phases of transfers. We will continue to receive allocations from the University through the end of June. In the meantime, we are open for Direct Admissions and have already received over 175 new freshmen and 111 new transfers. The Admissions Office will be partnering this cycle with the Office of New Student Engagement to participate in New Student Welcome Sessions. In addition, the Admissions Office is offering Information Sessions and Tours in April and May for prospective students and parents.
- The Office of New Student Engagement is currently conducting outreach to new incoming students via email and phone calls. Additionally, on March 31<sup>st</sup>, their office hosted over 120 students and parents during a “New Student and Family Welcome Session”. Staff members from Admissions, Financial Aid, Bursar, ASAP, College Discovery, Testing, and CUNY Start as well as faculty representing the Honors Program and Undergraduate Research were present and provided valuable information during the interactive Welcome Session.
- Summer/Fall 2016 advisement and registration for continuing students is currently underway in the Academies and special program offices. Advisers are concentrating early outreach efforts on students who are currently on probation or are in danger of going on probation so as to provide them with guidance and information on support resources. Registration for New Students will begin on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Financial Aid/Scholarships/Grants**

- The 2016-2017 Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is currently available on-line for students and families to begin the application process. Currently enrolled students who plan to register for Fall 2016 seeking NYS or Federal financial aid, must re-submit their FAFSA by Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The Office of Student Financial Services is hosting a series of workshops for students who need help completing the application. Students can register

for the workshops online via the following link:

<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/financialaid/applicationprocess.html>.

- The Fall 2016 Continuing Student Academic Merit Scholarship is now available for eligible students to apply. The deadline for students to submit their application online is Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Visit QCC's scholarship webpage at [www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships) to learn more about this and other exciting scholarship opportunities.
- **Milestone Scholarship:** To encourage timely degree completion, continuing QCC students who began in Fall 2015 and have completed between 26 and 29 credits towards their degree at the end of this term are eligible to receive a Milestone scholarship for a credit course taken at QCC this summer. 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 to be eligible for this scholarship. The Office of Academic Affairs has identified 237 students as milestone candidates, and sent these students an invitation to apply for this summer's Milestone scholarships.
- **STEM Waiver:** To promote credit accumulation in STEM courses, and help STEM students accumulate a sufficient number of credits each year without jeopardizing their future Tuition Assistance Program eligibility, the Mayor's budget has provided additional funds for tuition waivers for students taking STEM courses in the summer sessions. QCC will be granting STEM waivers for the 2016 summer sessions. Students will be granted a waiver for any STEM course that is required in their program of study. In addition, to encourage students to take a STEM course, QCC will grant waivers for up to two additional STEM or non-related STEM courses taken in the summer sessions. Fees are not covered by the waivers. Students will be granted the waiver if they are in “good academic standing” and NYC residents. A student does not need to be a STEM major to be granted the waivers. There is no requirement that students complete the courses or earn a specific grade. Incoming, transfer, first year students as well as continuing students will be encouraged to participate. An on-line application is being designed for easy student access and information. The STEM waiver program will be promoted on the college's webpage and Tigermail.
- The 2016 Phi Beta Kappa Association of New York Scholarship is still available for eligible students to apply. The deadline for students to submit their application packets to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs is Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more information about the scholarship opportunity, please visit <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships/>.
- The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation awarded QCC a three-year grant, of up to \$100,000 per year, for three years, to provide one-time, emergency grants to students in good standing with short-term financial emergencies to enable them to remain in school, rather than being forced to leave or drop out. The college completed the second year of the grant on December 31, 2015 and has successfully awarded \$200,000 to Queensborough students in need. As of March 24, 2016 the college has awarded \$35,500 for the third year of the grant which runs through December 31, 2016. Ms. Veronica Lukas, Executive Director of Student Financial Services, will be sending periodic e-mail reminders to the college community outlining the grant eligibility and encouraging faculty and staff to refer students to apply. Ms. Karen O'Sullivan, Associate Director of Student Financial Services, will serve as

the Grants Manager for this campus initiative. Please refer students with short-term financial emergencies to Ms. O’Sullivan at your earliest convenience. Additional information can be found at [www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships)

- Now through April 15, 2016, Single Stop will offer Free Tax Preparation for QCC students in the Student Union, Upper Level. Please encourage students to take advantage of this free service. For further information about this program and hours of operation, they are available from the Single Stop Office, located in the Library Building - Room 432A, or at [www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop/TaxPreparation.html](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop/TaxPreparation.html).
- Please encourage our students to avail themselves of the valuable and free resources through the QCC Single Stop Program. A list of the services provided include (but are not limited to) financial benefits screening, financial counseling, legal assistance, tax preparation services and more. Additional information can be found on their website at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop/index.html>.

### Faculty Honors

- Three faculty members were nominated for the Chancellor’s Spring Reception, which focuses on recognizing institutional grants as opposed to academic research grants:
  - Jeff Chen for Con Edison STEM Careers grant,
  - Dr. Joan Petersen for the STEP grant, and
  - Marie Francesca Berrouet for the CSTEP grant.
- Dr. Mirna Lekić, Assistant Professor in the Music Department and **CUNY Diversity Projects Development Fund Awardee**, presented the first of two concerts of “*Eastern Currents*” featuring contemporary chamber works by composers from the Asian and Arabs worlds with her chamber group, Ensemble 365. The second concert is May 20, 2016 at the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music.

### Student Honors

- QCC students Ms. Yueli Chen and Ms. Yi Jiang were selected among 1900 applicants as **Gold Scholars on Coca-Cola’s 2016 Community College Academic Team!** This national scholarship program, sponsored by Coca-Cola, is administered by the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. As Gold Scholars, Ms. Chen and Ms. Jiang will each receive a \$1500 scholarship. The Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team is sponsored by The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Congratulations to Ms. Chen and Ms. Jiang, not only for this achievement, but also for embracing service to their community and for being exemplary student role models!

### Assessment Institute

- For the sixth semester in a row, faculty colleagues have participated in the Assessment Institute, a series of workshops, running over four successive Fridays early in the semester, that cover assessment theory and practice related to course, program, and institutional levels of assessment, with special emphasis on course-level assessment. This semester, 15 faculty members participated, bringing the total of participating faculty over the past three years to 120. Departments represented in this latest cohort include Academic Literacy, Business, Engineering Technology, English, History, Music, Nursing, Social Sciences, and Speech

Communication and Theatre Arts. Faculty participants have submitted course assessment plans for an assessment project that will be conducted this semester. At the end of the semester, participants will submit a complete course assessment report. Reports from previous faculty cohorts in the institute may be viewed at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/assessment/ai.html>.

### **Grant Opportunities**

- CUNY Interdisciplinary Research Program (CIRG) - Two faculty members have submitted to the CUNY Interdisciplinary Research Program, which was due March 4.
- CUNY Community College Research Grant (CCRG) - The Community College Research Grant was due Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. In total, we have received 18 faculty proposals.

### **General Education Task Force update**

- The General Education Task Force held a faculty forum on the General Education outcomes on March 21 and 22, with approximately 30 faculty members in attendance. The faculty discussed the results of the recent faculty survey on general education and gave suggestions for which outcomes are most important to be assessed for all students on a college-wide basis, and on the recommended frequency of assessment. The Task Force has reviewed all these results and is preparing a report to the Academic Senate on its overall review of the outcomes and its recommendations. The report will be submitted first to the Curriculum Committee. Each department is indicating those faculty and course sections that will be participating in the Spring 2016 general education assessment of student artifacts, using the faculty-designed rubrics for the first four existing outcomes. Artifact scoring is scheduled for the weeks of June 13 and 20.

### **BTECH**

- Fourteen BTECH 9th and 10th grade students participated in a round robin mentoring session with representatives from 12 companies located in the NYC metropolitan area which use SAP software. The students moved from mentor to mentor asking the mentors questions about their careers in technology; how they began; what turns they may have taken in their career; and what suggestions the mentors have for them. Students also asked for examples of a day in the life of a technologist and what salaries they could expect with different levels of education and experience. Some conversations turned to specific technology software and the role of technology in the future as it applies to security and the use of big data. Next month a class of students will be traveling to the present US headquarters of SAP in Newtown Square, PA where students will spend the day touring and shadowing employees at the center. Future mentoring sessions are planned for the fall.

### **Upcoming Events**

- For the 2015-16 KHRCA NEH/Colloquia, there will be a presentation entitled: Forgotten Witnesses: Gender-Based Violence in Asia During WWII on **Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:10 pm in the KHRCA**. Dr. Jimin Kim and Artist Chang-Jin Lee will focus on the experiences of “comfort women,” and will attend to the more than 200,000 Korean, Chinese, Taiwanese, Indonesian, Dutch, and Filipino women who were kidnapped or deceived and forced into sexual slavery by the Imperial Japanese Army.

- Elections for the 2016-2017 QCC Student Government will be held **Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please encourage students to cast their ballots. This year, the polling site will be located in the lobby of the Administration Building. For more information, including polling site hours of operation, please visit <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/calendar/events/Student-Activities-Student-Government-Elections-4-13-2016.html>.
- On **Thursday, April 14, 2016**, the Office of Career Services will be hosting its annual **Etiquette in Action: A Business Dining Experience**. The purpose of this event is to help students feel more confident in professional settings by learning about proper protocol and etiquette. More information on this event can be found at [www.qcc.cuny.edu/careerServices](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/careerServices).
- Join us for the **Freedom Seder**, on **Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** in the Student Union Lounge. During the event, we will be recreating the first Passover Seder held after World War II, and a Yom HaShoah commemoration on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, that includes a presentation on the village of Le Chambon, an isolated community in the upper reaches of the Loire Valley that conspired to save the lives of 3500 Jews under the noses of the Germans and the soldiers of Vichy France. For more information, please visit <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/calendar/events/KHRCA-Freedom-Seder-4-17-2016.html>.
- In the final lecture of the series on **Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:10 p.m. in the KHRCA, Gender, Genocide and Justice in Rwanda**, speakers will conclude the series by applying a gender lens to the events of the Rwandan genocide and issues of reparations and political representation in post-genocide Rwanda.
- A favorite spring event is QCC's Asian Cultural Festival, held this year on **Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**, from noon to 2:00 in the Student Union. Several campus clubs and organizations cosponsor the event that features live performances, arts & crafts and food. All are cordially invited to join this celebration.
- The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center's newest original exhibition, **Producing Silence: Hollywood, The Holocaust, and the Jews**, is officially open. To further explore this topic, the Center will host a film screening of ***The Great Dictator*** on **Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:10pm**.
- Queensborough's 55<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremony will be held on Friday morning, **June 3, 2016**. This year, our grand marshal is Ms. Anne Marie Menendez. The academic procession will be led by Dr. Jilani Warsi (Faculty Marshal) and Dr. Carol Alleyne (HEO marshal). Dr. Neeraj Mehta will lead the AA candidates, Dr. Sharon Lall-Ramnarine will lead the AS candidates, and Mr. Marvin Gayle will lead the AAS candidates. 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](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/commencement). **The deadline for ordering academic attire is Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>!**