

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

December 8, 2015

Enrollment Management Update

- Student advisement and registration activities are well underway for Spring 2016. Beginning January 6th, advisement/registration will move to the Student Union to allow for a more convenient one-stop shop to be set-up. Academy advisers have conducted a telephone outreach campaign to all second semester freshmen encouraging early advisement and registration.
- In addition to New York City, the college is focusing recruitment efforts in Nassau County. A new admissions recruiter has been hired to work exclusively with high schools in Nassau. She is visiting all high schools in the area to inform counselors and students about the many opportunities available at Queensborough.

Faculty and Staff: Awards and Honors

- Dr. Julia Carroll, Associate Professor in Academic Literacy and Dr. Amy Traver, Associate Professor in Social Sciences have been invited to contribute an article on their service-learning work, which is directly connected to this year's NEH colloquia series, to the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) publication, Diversity and Democracy. The two QCC faculty members are very excited for this opportunity to promote their collective efforts to such a large national audience.
- The CUNY Faculty Fellowship Publication Program offers support and released time for faculty to publish in their discipline. As of November 25, 2015 five Queensborough faculty have been awarded this competitive award for 2015-16. The faculty are: Carolyn King from the Math Department; as well as Kathleen Alves, Leah Anderst, George Fragopoulos, and Tanya Zhelezcheva from English.
- Professor Christine Mooney, from the Business Department won a \$10,000 grant from Santander Bank for a joint program with Medgar Evers College, **Millennials Make it Happen**. The program will focus on financial literacy.

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

- Applications for Cycle 47 of the *PSC-CUNY Research Awards Program* are due on December 15, 2015. 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 **National Science Foundation** offers research sponsorship in the following areas: Major Research Instrumentation Program: (MRI), Law & Social Sciences (LSS), the Linguistics Program, the Sociology Program, the Political Science Program, the Development and Learning Sciences (DLS) and the Social Psychology Program. Deadlines for these programs are in January and early Spring 2016.
- **NASA** offers **Fellowships for Early Career Researchers**. The deadline is rolling, but closes in April 2016. For more information contact Doris Daou, Planetary Science Division, at Doris.Daou@nasa.gov
- **Alfred P. Sloan Foundation** makes grants in nine major program areas: Research Fellowships for early-career scholars, STEM Research and Higher Education, Public Understanding of Science, Technology, & Economics in Digital Information Technology, Economics, Energy and Environment, and Civic Initiatives. Initial applications, consisting of a Letter of Inquiry, are accepted throughout the year. For more information, go to: <http://www.sloan.org/major-program-areas>.

Students: Awards and Honors and Opportunities.

- The Center for International Affairs, Immigration & Study Abroad has received 38 applications from eligible students who wish to participate in this year's Salzburg Study Abroad Global Seminar. Applications are currently being reviewed and the committee will be selecting students to move on to the group interview phase of the application process. Also, please join me in congratulating Professor Sebastian Murolo and Dr. Franca Ferrari-Bridgers, who have been selected to serve as the Salzburg 2016 faculty advisers.
- Faculty and staff are asked to encourage our students to take advantage of the valuable and free resources available through *the QCC Single Stop Program*. A list of the services provided include financial benefits screening, financial counseling, legal assistance, tax preparation services and more. Additional information can be found on their website at www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop.
- The University is continuing the initiative in which CUNY has partnered with **The Dream. US Scholarship Program** to assist undocumented students in obtaining scholarships. The Dream. US Scholarship Program provides college scholarships to highly motivated undocumented students who entered the United States as minors and who, without financial assistance, cannot afford a college education. The next application cycle is currently open, with a deadline of February 15, 2016 for the Fall 16 semester. Please refer students to apply at www.thedream.us.
- Phi Theta Kappa: Matriculated students with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and 15 credits accumulated are still eligible to join the Lambda Sigma Chapter of the Phi theta

Kappa International Honor Society. Applications can be downloaded from the College's website at www.qcc.cuny.edu/ptk or picked up in the Library Building, Room 412. The deadline for students to join for the Fall 2015 semester is Wednesday, December 23.

- The New York City Mayor's Office continues funding of the STEM Support Expansion Program. A major component of this initiative provides tuition waivers to students taking STEM courses. Over five hundred STEM waiver applications were received and processed for the January 2016 intersession. All available funds for the winter funds have been claimed and the application process closed. The STEM waiver program will continue in summer 2016. Encourage all students to apply early.
- Applications for the Milestone Scholarship continue to be accepted for the January 2016 intersession. The scholarships are intended to support a student reaching the "thirty-credit" milestone of his/her Queensborough degree within one calendar year. Students who began their degree program in Spring 2015 and have completed between 26 and 29 credits towards their degree as of the end of this fall term with a 2.75 GPA or higher are encouraged to apply for the winter scholarship. All eligible candidates must submit a complete application to the Office of Academic Affairs as soon as possible.

BTECH

- Faculty continue to work on preparing students for their first college courses by developing the Indicators of Student Readiness (ISRs) with the high school teachers. Approximately 80 second year students are enrolled in Speech 211 for the spring semester, their first college course. Additional ISRs are being developed by the teachers and faculty for science, english, and math courses. BTECH and current QCC college students are participating in a SAP media event at Chelsea Piers entitled, Technology: the Intersection of two Industries - Sports and Healthcare. Twenty journalists from major publications will be attending and all the students will be assigned roles such as journalists, bloggers, videographers, tweeters, and interviewers.

FY 15 Strategic Plan

- The strategic planning process for 2016-17 is proceeding on schedule. Initial focus group discussions have been held with governance leaders, academic chairs, HEOs, and student leaders. As scheduled, the College Advisory Planning Committee (CAPC) met in September and November and will begin meeting again in the spring semester. A preliminary draft of the plan will be distributed to the divisions of the college for further input. Open hearings for the campus community will be held later in the spring semester for discussion and input. The strategic plan will form around six college goals: faculty and staff development, curriculum, Queensborough Academies, college readiness, use of technology, and community-building.

GENERAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE

- The Task Force has completed the rubrics for the third and fourth General Education outcomes, Quantitative Reasoning and information Management. All four rubrics will be used for assessing general education outcomes in spring 2016. The Task Force is currently completing its review of the College's current Educational Outcomes, last revised in 2007. As described in the May 2015 report to the Senate, the Task Force has prepared a General Education mission statement and guiding principles for the review and has identified core learning outcomes. To engage all the faculty in this review process, the Task Force has prepared a **General Education Survey** to get feedback on how the faculty want to revise our list of ten outcomes. All faculty members are encouraged to respond to the survey.

Upcoming Events

- The Office of New Student Engagement will host a Welcome Session for prospective students and their families on Saturday, December 12th at 10:30 a.m. The session is designed: to introduce 'non-tested' students to the placement test; to inform tested students on placement options; to guide students and their families through the enrollment process; to educate students and their families on college related financial responsibilities; and as the first step to introduce information on college transition and readiness.
- The Office of Health Services will be hosting a Blood Drive on **Wednesday, December 16th** from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm in the Student Union Lounge.
- The annual Convocation of the College will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2016 in M-136 from 9 am to 12 noon, with a continental breakfast at 8:30 am. It is hosted by the Office of Academic Affairs for faculty and HEOs and launches our spring semester that features new directions and innovations occurring at the College and the work of faculty in important initiatives across campus. This year the convocation will highlight support available to faculty for scholarship and teaching.
- The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) will host the New Faculty Institute, a three-day experience intended to familiarize new faculty with essential faculty support resources and pedagogical innovations offered at the College. The institute will be held on January 19 to 21, 2016, from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. The first of the three days the faculty will meet in the Oakland Dining Room, the second day in LB 24 and the last day in the Oakland Dining Room.
- The Adjunct and Substitute Faculty Orientation a two-day event is sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs. The orientations will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, and Thursday, February 4, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the Oakland Dining Room.