

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University of New York
COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AND ARCHIVAL RESOURCES
of the ACADEMIC SENATE
ANNUAL REPORT for 2012 – 2013

To: Dr. Emily Tai, Chairperson, Steering Committee, Academic Senate

From: Dr. Isabella Lizzul, Chairperson of the Committee on Cultural and Archival Resources

Date: July 2013

Subject: Annual Report of The Committee on Cultural and Archival Resources 2012 / 2013.

Committee Members:

Susan Agin (Managing and Artistic Director of The Queensborough Performing Arts Center)

Julia Carroll (Department of Basic Educational Skills)

Lorraine M. Cupelli (Department of Nursing)

Arthur Flug (Director, Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives)

John Gilleaudeau (Department of Social Sciences)

Isabella Lizzul (Department of Health, Physical Education and Dance)

Faustino Quintanilla (Director of QCC Art Gallery)

Jeffrey L. Schwartz (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Technology)

Eileen White (Department of Speech Communication and Theater Arts)

Rosemary Zins (Vice President for Institutional Advancement)

Committee Officers: Isabella Lizzul, Chairperson
Jeffrey L. Schwartz, Secretary

Committee Meetings:

February 29, 2012

March 27, 2012

April 24, 2012

May 15, 2012

October 16, 2012

November 12, 2012

December 10, 2012

February 14, 2013

April 22, 2013

May 15, 2013

Narrative Summary of Committee Work

The Committee on Cultural and Archival Resources (CAR) ended the academic year with the election of chairperson, Isabella Lizzul and secretary, Jodie Childers.

At the first meeting of the new academic year, members were given previous reports and minutes of the Committee on Cultural and Archival Resources to apprise them of the prior work, accomplishments and actions of the CAR Committee. Members were asked to reflect on the previous committee progress and begin to think of innovative ways in which to carry out the mission of the cultural and archival resources as a pedagogy resource within the curriculum and in the classroom, and to identify strategies by which to communicate with other faculty members to encourage utilization of the cultural resources and to make the Cultural Connection.

The CULTURAL CONNECTION SEMINARS (CETL) Dr. Meg Tarafdar, *making Cultural Connections: Diversity & Global Learning Across the Curriculum*.

“CETL seeks faculty members who are interested to participate in an intellectually stimulating, community-building seminar series comprised of guest lectures, readings, and seminar discussions.

This is a call for participation in a series of pedagogy seminars to design and develop instructional material for enhancing diversity/global learning in the curriculum. Those accepted will work together as a cohort to explore various models for integrating cultural resources in order to support pedagogical best practices and to enhance learning outcomes in their courses. Seminar participants will produce a minimum of two lessons for teaching, learning, and assessment in order to achieve their course objectives. Participants will share session outcomes with the cohort and with larger audiences through an online component (such as wiki, blog, e-portfolio groups, etc.) and solicit feedback.”

The title “Making the Cultural Connection Incorporating QPAC, the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives and QCC Art Gallery” was discussed during the Moving Ahead with e-Portfolio workshop on 9/28/12. Schedules for the upcoming exhibits and events of the QPAC, the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives and QCC Art Gallery were given out so professors would know what they would be able to incorporate into their lessons. Dion Pincus, Director of the Writing Center, and Michele Cuomo, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs encouraged faculty who attended the workshop to reach out to the directors of our cultural centers for ideas.

Meg Tarafdar provided the committee with a descriptive overview of the four-part “Cultural Connection as Diversity/Global Learning” series. She described the first session as a brief overview on global learning where participants heard from an array of speakers who spoke about their own experiences using this type of learning. She mentioned that the participants were from multiple disciplines. The second seminar, was scheduled for Friday, October 26, 2012 and focused on various ways to integrate high-impact models of cultural/global diversity instruction. This also included a self-assessment of one’s own cultural bias. Lorraine spoke about her experiences having her nursing students interview Holocaust survivors. The next seminar Meg described

provided the participants with the opportunity to design activities around the themes that they had selected. In the final session, participants presented the projects that they were doing that semester or planning on doing next semester.

Meg pointed out that the Diversity Development Grant deadline was October 23, 2012. It would be open to both faculty and adjuncts. Meg proposed the theme of storytelling from different cultures to celebrate the theme of diversity. She also mentioned that the pedagogy of story-telling is becoming increasingly popular.

- It was suggested that e-Portfolios be used in doing cultural connections projects.
- It was also suggested that testimonials also be sent out in the form of an email or “QCC Dialog” to help get more faculty involved in doing cultural connection projects.
- Isabella followed this with an email sent to the “QCC Dialog”.

Lisa Scandalio, Assistant to the Director of the QCC Art Gallery, described the “Three Generations” exhibit, which was in the main gallery, and “The Village,” which was going to be part of the permanent exhibition. This was a fantastic showing of mask work. All of the masks were accompanied with fully adorned costumes. This show was up until January 5th.

Dr. Arthur Flug described an ongoing program in which interns interviewed Holocaust Survivors. He also mentioned that the Center started a second internship program looking at the Korean experience of occupation and the experiences of the Korean “comfort woman.” The Center worked with the local Korean community to tell their stories about the Japanese occupation. He then mentioned how important it was to teach students these stories so that these stories will not be forgotten.

Susan Agin presented us with a beautiful, brochure describing upcoming events at QPAC. Some of the multicultural programs that QPAC had presented were:

Holiday Tales -- A Multi-Cultural Celebration on December 12th

I Have Dream on February 7th

My Heart in a Suitcase (A Holocaust Tale) on March 15th

Susan suggested that although these programs are for children (elementary through eighth grade), it may be interesting for our students who come to see these shows, to ascertain their perception of the ethnic groups portrayed in these productions both **before** and **after** the program. Susan commented that this would provide clarity and proof as to whether feelings about a group of people can change once we get to know their cultural views and hear their personal stories.

On November 12th Dr. Tarafdar had reported that the first series of the Cultural Connection Seminars had been going well. Twelve faculty members from a variety of departments had attended the sessions. Two sessions had been held while the remaining sessions (which included guest speakers) involved the attendees presenting their ideas.

KHRCA received a grant from Con Edison for work in inter-group relations, understanding, and hate crimes. Executive Directors Agin and Flug impressed us all with their upcoming events for the fall and spring, which were easy to find on their up-to-date websites: <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/khrca/> and <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/qpac/>.

CULTURAL CONNECTION VIDEOS AND WEBSITES

Prof. Gilleaudeau informed the committee that five more testimonials have been recorded. He was very happy with the websites for QPAC and the KHRCA. The Computing Center needed to make incremental changes to the QCC Art Gallery website (<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/artgallery/default.asp>). Vice President Zins suggested to Director Quintanilla and Assistant Director Scandaliato that revamping the website needed to be addressed in the upcoming months and all agreed of the importance of this matter.

The next phase will be promotion, which all agreed would be best done by appealing to new faculty as early as possible. New faculty now go to a week-long New Faculty Institute, so making the Cultural Connection will be promoted there.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH) GRANT

Earlier in 2012 Dr. Sarah Danielsson won the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant and was invited to the CAR Committee to discuss her experience with the process. She described the work she had put into developing and running the NEH Seminar Series, “Genocide, Justice and Human Rights” (<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/History/faculty/SDanielsson/NEHSeminarSeries-GenocideJusticeAndHumanRights.html>). This grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities is open to applications from all Humanities Department faculty members.

A competitive Request for Proposals process was held among the QCC Faculty and Dr. Susan Jacobowitz was selected as this year’s recipient. A total of \$50,000 is available to Dr. Jacobowitz to host a minimum of six public symposia on human rights to further the humanities within community colleges in connection with the National Endowment for the Humanities grant.

Earlier this year Prof. Lizzul discussed the success and expansion of the Cultural Connection Seminars. She also mentioned that members of this committee will mentor new faculty who wish to take the seminars and incorporate cultural connections into their courses.

- Prof. Cupelli discussed how she was incorporating the use of Common Read, “*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*” into her courses and using its socio-

cultural themes in broadening the service-learning and cultural aspects of her course.

- Ms. Scandaliato informed the committee of the new exhibit at the QCC Art Gallery on Tanzanian art and artifacts, entitled *Shangaa: Art of Tanzania*. The opening took place on February 22nd. It was a high profile opening, as the ambassador from the UN attended.
- Dr. Flug informed the committee of the new event at the Kupferbeger Holocaust Resource Center entitled “*The Train From Auschwitz: A Journey from Shame to Self-Realization,*” which began in March 2013.
- Prof. Lizzul mentioned a new exciting event that would be taking place at QPAC (Queensborough Performing Arts Center), *Giselle: the Russian National Ballet*. Which took place on March 17th.

CULTURAL CONNECTION SEMINARS (CETL)

At the seminar session of April 19 participants worked on assessment tools and outcomes. A survey was given out about Culturally Sensitive Learning. Participants, including a representative from the Study Abroad program, spoke about developing intercultural sensitivity. “Understanding and Assessing Intercultural Competence” by Sinicrope, Norris, and Watanabe ([http://www.hawaii.edu/sls/uhwpsel/26\(1\)/Norris.pdf](http://www.hawaii.edu/sls/uhwpsel/26(1)/Norris.pdf)) was discussed.

CULTURAL CONNECTION VIDEOS AND WEBSITES

Approximately 26 videos were in place in the Spring 2013 semester. Prof. Gilleaudau was trying to promote the videos in the Math Department and as well as other departments. He sent a reminder to the chairs to mention the videos to their departments. All agreed that talking to chairs in person would be the best way to promote the Cultural Connection.

The following email was sent out to all department chairs on July 12, 2013 by Prof. Gilleaudau:

Chairpersons,

My name is John Gilleaudeau and I teach economics out of the Social Sciences Department at QCC. I also serve on the Committee on Archival Resources and on the Art Gallery Advisory Council, and it is in those latter capacities that I contact you.

I understand that time spent at Departmental meetings is precious, but my Department has, on occasion, allowed guests to come and inform myself and colleagues regarding interesting programs of which we may avail ourselves.

One recent guest, told us of the mission of the Common Read, another came to apprise us of developments with our assessment efforts at QCC. Each guest only

took a couple of minutes and left before Department business got underway.

Similarly, I'd request that you consider allowing myself or another member of my Committee to do the same at your first meeting of the Fall semester.

Specifically, I'd like to inform and exhort faculty, especially new faculty, to utilize the wonderful cultural resources of the QCC campus.

Of course the decision is yours, but given a little notice, I'm sure that a visit could be arranged to the advantage of all.

Even if you decide against a visit, I ask that you share the following testimonials with your colleagues. It may spur interest as to the possibilities for enriching their pedagogy.

<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/khrca/testimonials.asp>

<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/QPAC/testimonials.asp>

<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/artgallery/testimonials.asp>

With respect and appreciation,

John G

John Gilleaudeau

Economics Lecturer at QCC - CUNY

office: M-120 / ext.: 6047

site: <http://sites.google.com/site/stuffeconomics/>

blog: <http://blaheconomics.blogspot.com/>

UPDATES AND DEVELOPMENTS

Executive Director Flug informed us that twelve student interns interviewed Holocaust Survivors. Prof. Carroll's students also interviewed survivors. Prof. Cupelli had students who were nurses of survivors.

Eleven more interns spoke by video hookup with Korean Comfort Women at the House of Sharing in South Korea.

Executive Director Quintanilla and Assistant Director Scandaliato expressed that they would be meeting with chairs to promote the new exhibitions at the Art Gallery. Assistant Director Scandaliato made a QPAC brochure to send to the chairs.

ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING NEWS

President Call announced to the Academic Senate on May 14, 2013, that Diversity/Global Learning has been identified as one of seven high-impact practices recognized by QCC.

CULTURAL CONNECTION SEMINARS (CETL)

Associate Director Tarafdar informed us of the framework for the seminar series:

1. Culturally Sensitive Learning Design
2. Developing Intercultural Competence
3. Intercultural Communication

A survey has been set up on Survey Monkey to find out what types of projects attendees are working on.

UPDATES AND DEVELOPMENTS

Executive Director Agin mentioned that while QPAC is still featuring performances for their older patrons, this age group is becoming scarce, so there is increased programming for younger patrons.

QPAC had its first annual fundraiser in the Spring, which was a success and will be used as a template for future fundraisers.

Assistant Director Scandaliato reported that “Shangaa: Art of Tanzania,” was reviewed by the New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/10/arts/design/shangaa-art-of-tanzania.html>), resulting in an increase in visitors.

On behalf of Executive Director Flug, VP Zins showed us the NEH brochure for the program that resulted from last year’s grant. QCC’s cultural and archival resources were also mentioned in *Salute to Scholars* magazine (<http://www1.cuny.edu/mu/forum/2013/04/28/the-new-cultural-capital-of-queens/>).

NEW OFFICER ELECTIONS

Prof. Lizzul was re-elected unanimously to the position of CAR Committee Chair. Prof. Childers was elected unanimously to the position of CAR Committee Secretary.

Current Disposition of all items acted on by the Committee, by the College, or by the Academic Senate

Cultural Connection Seminar Series

The Cultural Connection projects and seminars series will continue in the fall of 2013 offering high-impact learning experiences for students.

CULTURAL CONNECTION VIDEOS

Approximately 26 videos were in place in the Spring 2013 semester. Prof. Gilleaudau has sent a reminder to the chairs to mention the videos to their departments. All agreed that talking to departmental chairs in person would be the best way to promote the Cultural Connection.

CULTURAL CONNECTION AS DIVERSITY/GLOBAL LEARNING

President Call announced to the Academic Senate on May 14, 2013, that Diversity/Global Learning has been identified as one of seven high-impact practices recognized by QCC.

Diversity/Global Learning

Many colleges and universities now emphasize courses and programs that help students explore cultures, life experiences, and worldviews different from their own. These studies — which may address U.S. diversity, world cultures, or both — often explore “difficult differences” such as racial, ethnic, and gender inequality, or continuing struggles around the globe for human rights, freedom, and power. Frequently intercultural studies are augmented by experiential learning in the community and/or by study abroad.

While we can continue to encourage the faculty to Make the Cultural Connection as part of Service Learning, we can also encourage the faculty to Make the Cultural Connection as part of Diversity/Global Learning at QCC. Not only is Diversity/Global Learning a nationally recognized high-impact strategy, but it is also a source of grants .

New Committee Members

Jodie Childers -- Assistant Professor of English (incoming)
Jenny (Maan) Lin -- Associate Professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures (incoming), Ben Murolo (incoming) Isabella Lizzul, Eileen White, Jeffrey L. Schwartz, John Gilleaudeau.

New Chairperson and Secretary

The current chairperson, Isabella Lizzul and Jodie Childers, secretary, were unanimously voted for and have accepted their positions.

Appreciation: Thank you to the committee members and our cultural directors for all their hard work and a productive year. We would also like to thank Dr. Meg Tarafdar, Associate Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), Dean Michele Cuomo, Dr. Julia Carroll, Ms. Jo Pantello, QCC ExCEL Service-Learning Project Director and Director of the Basic Skills Learning Center, and Ms. Cristina DiMeo, Project Coordinator of the Office of Service Learning, Prof. John Gilleadeau and video archivist Mr. Phil Roncoroni. A special thanks to President Call, VP Zins and Dean Cuomo for their support and promotion of our committee work and accomplishments.