



***Report of the President***  
**to the**  
**Academic Senate**  
**October 14, 2014**

**Enrollment Update**

- The College completed a very successful Fall advisement and registration cycle, enrolling over 16,000 students and surpassing our target for new students (freshmen and transfers) by 100. In collaboration with the Academic Senate Committees on Admissions and Course and Standing, more rigorous standards were applied to students seeking readmission and those appealing academic dismissal.
- The Office of Admissions hosted the Fall CUNY Counselor Conference on Friday, October 3, 2014. Over 80 guidance counselors from New York City and Nassau County attended the event.
- On Saturday, November 8, 2014, the Office of Admissions will host the annual Fall Open House for prospective students and parents from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. with an opening session in the Humanities Theatre at 11:00 a.m. with campus tours and information sessions about academic programs, services and financial aid. For more information as to how faculty and staff can participate, please contact Dean Laura Bruno in the Admissions office, ext. 5212.

**Advisement/Registration Update**

- Winter session and Spring 2015 advisement for currently enrolled students began Tuesday, October 7. Students will be contacted by their assigned Academy Adviser or special program Advisers (i.e., ASAP, College Discovery, Veterans, International Students, SSD)) reminding them to review Degree Works and course offerings and begin planning for next semester. New Student Advisement and registration will begin in early November.
- STARFISH update: This early alert system allows timely input about students by faculty, tracks the interventions recommended, and gives faculty feedback on the outcomes of their referrals. The first Starfish Early Alert survey sent to faculty on 9/8/14 prompted almost 2600 alerts, identifying students at risk due to performance, attendance or preparedness for class. Almost one half of the students identified as at risk responded to the outreach and attended a Learning Center.

## Assessment Update

- Four degree programs will undergo academic program review this year: two dual/joint programs with John Jay, in Criminal Justice and Science for Forensics, and two A.A.S. programs, Internet Technology and Music Production. The sponsoring departments are forming review teams and IR has prepared data packets. This group will be using the streamlined program review template and following the revised three-semester schedule, which allows for a more deliberative process than the previous two-semester timeframe. In addition, the Office will be asking all the departments to update and streamline the schedule of course assessment in support of program review.
- The Department of Speech Communication and Theatre Arts has submitted its application for external accreditation of the VAPA Theatre Concentration by the National Association of Schools of Theatre. Seeking this accreditation is an outcome of the academic program review for the A.S. in Visual and Performing Arts which took place last year, and included an advisory visit by a consultant from the National Association. National consultants have also visited the campus to advise on the Art and Design and the Dance concentrations.
- The General Education Assessment Task Force is continuing its work on creating rubrics for assessing student achievement of the College's Educational Outcomes. The task force prepared a rubric for Outcome # 2 (analytical reasoning) during June and is now working on Outcome #1 (communication). These rubrics will be used in spring 2015 to assess artifacts from courses across the disciplines.

## College News

- The Rubin museum is continuing their partnership with Queensborough for another year. College faculty, staff and students will get a full year of membership, which entitles them to free admission to the museum. An anonymous trustee of the museum agreed to fund the partnership. Dr. Margot Edlin took the lead in carrying out the negotiations.
- Once again Queensborough will offer the Milestone Winter Scholarship for the January 2015 intersession. This scholarship supports timely progress toward degree completion by helping students reach their "thirty-credit milestone." The scholarship applies to a course to be taken during the Winter session. Upon completion of that course, students will have met or exceeded the "thirty- credit milestone" of their education here at Queensborough. Please see Dean Glenn Burdi for more information.

- 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 STEM courses while not jeopardizing their TAP eligibility. Queensborough will be providing tuition waivers to students taking STEM courses in the Winter 2015 intersession. Winter classes are currently being scheduled for which students will be able to enroll and receive a tuition waiver. Please see Dean Glenn Burdi for more information.

### **Faculty/Staff Achievements and Grant Awards**

- Dr. Nidhi Gadura (Biological Sciences and Geology) and Dr. Paris Svoronos (Chemistry) have been awarded a US Department of Education MSEIP grant for \$657,063 over three years to implement their project: "Undergraduate Research as a Tool to Engage, Retain and Graduate".
- QCC faculty received three 2014-15 CUNY Community College Collaborative Incentive Research Grants (C3IRG). Dr Sunil Dehipawala and Dr. Vazgen Shekoyan both of the Physics Department, received a \$14,389 C3IRG grant for their project: "Implications of the inclusion of student collaborative group work on advanced course materials in introductory physics courses". Dr. Nadyu Carmona, Dr. Peter Novick, and Dr. Monica Trujillo, all from our Department of Biological Sciences and Geology received a C3IRG grant of \$4,578 for their project on "Cloning, Characterization and Screening of Streptomyces Rhomboids." And, Professor Maryann Magaldi and Professor Shenaz Georgilis from our Department of Nursing, were awarded \$12,500 for their project: "What is the relationship between the standardized admission test scores used by the C.U.N.Y. Nursing Programs and a student's successful program completion and passing the RN-NCLEX Examination on the first attempt?"
- Five QCC faculty members will participate in the Association for American Colleges and Universities' (AAC&U) campus-based research project Advancing Underserved Student Success Through Faculty Intentionality in Problem-Centered Learning: Simran Kaur (Biology and Geological Sciences), Amy Traver (Social Sciences), Tanya Zhelezcheva (English), Kostas Stroumbakis (Math and Computer Science), and Franca Ferrari (Speech, Communication and Theatre Arts). Queensborough is one of seven minority-serving institutions selected to participate in the project funded by TG Philanthropy and part of the AAC&U's Making Excellence Inclusive initiative. This research project is designed to build on existing knowledge about the relationship between high-impact practices and

underserved student success as well as the role of transparency in teaching high-impact practices. Drs. Andrea Salis and Jane E Hindman are co-PIs of the grant.

### **Student Honors and Opportunities**

- Five (5) QCC students were chosen as recipients of the **2014 University Student Senate Scholarships** for the Fall 2014 semester, including Ms. Lourdes Carballo (\$1500 Ernesto Malave Merit Scholarship), Ms. Minni Zhang (\$1500 Ernesto Malave Merit Scholarship), Ms. Ishrat Ferdous, Ms. Lauren Hussey and Mr. Kimani Magloire each were awarded a \$750 Donald & Mary Ellen Passantino Scholarship for Disabled Students.
- Also, Ms. Lourdes Carballo, Lambda Sigma Chapter member of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, has been selected as a **2014 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar** and will be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship. Highly competitive, the scholarship is designed to provide new Phi Theta Kappa members with financial resources to help defray educational expenses while enrolled in a two-year college, and to encourage their participation in PTK programs and activities.
- **Emergency funding** is available to students who face a financial crisis that puts at risk their continued enrollment toward their QCC degree. Supported through a \$300,000 grant from **The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation**, the funds 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. 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. Denise Scalzo, 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. Scalzo at your earliest convenience. Additional information can be found at [www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships).
- Faculty and staff are asked to encourage our students to avail themselves of the valuable and free resources through the **QCC Single Stop Program**, located in the Library Building, room L 432a, ext. 6347. 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 [www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop).

- New this semester is a University 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 under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or Temporary Protect Status (TPS), and who, without financial assistance, cannot afford a college education. All funding is provided by private donations to The Dream.US organization. The Fall 2014 application period will offer the following scholarship opportunities, with an application deadline of October 26, 2014. Please refer students to apply at [www.thedream.us](http://www.thedream.us).
- Applications for the **2015 Women's Forum of New York Education Awards** are now available. The purpose of this award is to encourage mature women to realize their own potential and contribute significantly to their communities. Awards of **\$10,000** will be given to women over 35 who, after interrupting their education due to life's adversities, are now pursuing their first associate or bachelor degree. Applicants must demonstrate noteworthy promise and resilience in the face of challenges and demonstrate a commitment to helping others and to making a difference in their community. Financial need is not the primary determining factor in the selection of recipients, although true financial need should be in evidence. *The deadline for the application and supporting material is December 1, 2014.* Applicants must be residents of New York City, attend colleges in New York City at least part-time and have at least nine credits remaining after June 2015 to complete their degree. For more information, please contact Ms. Ronnie Lukas, Executive Director of Financial Services and Scholarships.
- The Office of Student Activities is currently recruiting students and faculty to participate in the annual **CUNY Women's Leadership Conference** on Friday, October 31st at Hunter College. This year's keynote will be delivered by New York City's First Lady, Chirlane McCray. Those interested in attending should contact Ms. Gisela Rivera or Mr. Raymond Volel at ext. 6233 for additional information.

### **CUNY 2020: Center for Allied Healthcare Training and Workforce Development**

- Work to launch this \$10 Million grant has begun. Initial activities will include identification of a site to purchase and renovate as a training center and Community Health Center; scope of work to renovate the biotechnology laboratory in the Medical Arts Building; and the design of a video conferencing system on campus and at the CUNY School of Law to

serve students at both institutions, as well as the Center. Additional fund raising efforts are under way to close the financial award gap of \$800,000 to achieve the full scope of the project..

### **Business Technology Early College High School (BTECH) Update**

- BTECH opened its doors on September 4th with 124 students traveling from various areas of Queens. BTECH's first class of ninth graders brings together a diverse group of students representing Asian (20%), African American (35%), and Hispanic (30%), cultures. The student body is roughly 30% female and 70% male. The first component of curriculum planning is complete with the two A.A.S. degree programs selected (Computer Information Systems and Internet Technology.) Both high school and college courses have been sequenced and the first college course – SP 211: Speech Communications – will be offered to all students in the spring of 2016. The evolving proposed scope and sequence of both high school and college courses for the six years was submitted to NYSED. Work has now begun on services that oversee Transitions, Interventions and Enrichment (TIE). The TIE subcommittee will focus on ensuring efforts such as the integration of the QCC Academies and the SAP mentoring program, academic preparedness and pre-college.

### **Upcoming Events**

- A series of Common Read Book Club meetings will commence on Wednesday, October 15th, from 3:10 to 5:00 pm in the KHRC&A. Additional meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, November 5th, from 12:10 to 2:00 pm in LB6, Monday, November 17th, from 3:10 to 5:00 pm in the KHRC&A and Wednesday, December 10th from 3:10 to 5:00 pm in L313. At these meetings faculty will learn the basics of participation in the Common Read initiative, be introduced to resources available in Blackboard, participate in discipline specific brainstorming sessions and event planning for the spring.
- On October 15, CETL will launch a series of workshops on Classroom Management, with the first topic on "The Intercultural Classroom". This interactive session will explore the impact of intercultural communication patterns, diverse learning styles, and different expectations. On Wednesday, October 29, the second session in this series "Creating a Safe and Dynamic Learning Environment" will consider how to emphasize teaching and learning and manage disruptive behavior in the classroom.
- The QCC Art Gallery will open the exhibit, **Asian Art • 40 Years** on Thursday, October 16 at 5 pm. This exhibition, curated by Chaolun

Baatar, celebrates the arts of Asia throughout the past 40 years, and features thirty of the most preeminent artists who depict the beauty and diversity found throughout the continent. The exhibit will be on display through January.

- On Thursday, October 23, at 5:30 PM in the Student Union, the campus community is invited to our annual **Celebration of Service** honoring faculty and staff who have worked at the College time for 20, 30, 40 , and 50 years!!! This year we will celebrate with Richard Auman (Mathematics and Computer Science), Alli Baccus (Buildings and Grounds), Elaine Bermak (Speech Communications and Theatre Arts), Amy Camus (Music), Joseph Cartolano (Buildings and Grounds), Neil Connolly, (Mathematics and Computer Science), Mary Ann Cuevas (Central Receiving and Inventory), Roberto Cuevas (Buildings and Grounds), Trevor Daley (Mathematics and Computer Science), Jean Darcy (English), James DeLuca (Mathematics and Computer Science), Vicenza Dispenza (Foreign Languages and Literature), Robert Dochnahl (Buildings and Grounds), Barbara Elias, (Academic Literacy), Sam Gadson (Buildings and Grounds), Marcos Hidalgo (Buildings and Grounds), Margaret Howell (Financial Services), Mohammad Javadi (Mathematics and Computer Science), Donald Kaplan (Social Sciences), Allan Kashkin (Music), Anthony Kolios (Business), Andrea Kreinik (Speech Communication and Theatre Arts), Philip Listengart (Art and Photography), Maryann Magaldi (Nursing), Gene Mann (English), John McIntosch III (Public Safety), Devin McKay (Library), Mahamood Pournazari (Mathematics and Computer Science), Marck Prinz (English), David Ramratan (Buildings and Grounds), Joseph Russo (Business), Paul Salerni (English), Ramond Schade (Buildings and Grounds), Stephen Scharf (Physics), Carol Schilling (Mathematics and Computer Science), Monica Segura (Academic Advisement), Jimmu Sideris (Mathematics and Computer Science), Corey Stalerman (Physics), Delores Weber (Nursing), Rochelle Weiner (Mathematics and Computer Science), Constance Williams (Library), Henry Gavilanes (Finance and Administration), Larry Nelson (Information Technology), Karen Steele (Strategic Planning, Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness), Kathleen Villani (Business), and celebrating 50 years of service, Peter Stark (Engineering Technology).

The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives invites the campus community to several events:

- On Sunday, October 19 at 1:00 PM in the KHRCA, Salo Aizenberg will present a lecture on **Hate Mail**, chronicling a shocking aspect of anti-Semitism. One of the most visible forms of anti-Semitism in the early 20th century was spread by the general population through postcards.

Salo Aizenberg, one of the world's foremost postcard collectors, is the first to compile, translate and describe them in a historical context.

- The annual Kristallnacht Commemoration will take place on Sunday, November 9 at 1 pm in the Student Union building. This event will honor the memory of Jewish victims whose synagogues and businesses were destroyed by the Nazis on November 9, 1938.
- Dr. Arthur Flug, Executive Director of the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives will present a lecture entitled, **Was Superman Jewish and Why Did Nazis Hate Him?** on Thursday, November 13 at 1 pm in the KHRCA. Dr. Flug explores reproductions of some of the comics and reviews art collections that helped to defeat the Nazis.
- The Department of Career Services invites students to the Internship & Cooperative Education Forum on Wednesday, November 5 in the SUL from 12-3 pm. Employers and faculty coordinators of our academies will be available to meet with students to discuss internships and cooperative education at QCC.
- The Dean's List Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 7pm in the Humanities Theatre.