



President's Report to the Academic Senate

December 13, 2016

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

- Student advisement and registration activities are well underway for Spring 2017. Beginning January 10th, advisement/registration will move to the Student Union to allow to enable our convenient One-Stop advisement and registration center for new and continuing students. Academic advisers throughout the campus have been engaged in targeted outreach to our Fall first-time freshmen cohort, and students on probation. In addition, this year Academy Advisement launched an “October is Advisement Month” campaign to encourage early advisement and registration among continuing students. These early and sustained efforts seem to helping. Early registration numbers for continuing are ahead of last year at the same time. (+639 students).
- Direct Admissions for Spring 2017 is ongoing and traffic is brisk in the Admissions Office. We continue our outreach to Nassau County, and are planning another Nassau Day “On-the Spot” Admissions on January 7th.
- New Student Engagement is working closely with Admissions and Advisement to help onboard our newly admitted students by offering Welcome Sessions, as well as several Strategy and Resource sessions designed to better prepare students to take the CUNY Assessment tests.

ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION

- **Strategic Plan**

The strategic planning process for 2017-18 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, will meet again in December, and will resume meeting again in the spring semester. A draft of the plan will be developed over the next few months, with input from the administrative divisions of the college. The strategic plan will be organized around the new college goals and mission and the five priorities that have been the focus of recent plans: faculty and staff development and community building, curriculum, Queensborough Academies, college readiness, and use of technology. As usual, open hearings for the campus community will be held later in the spring semester for discussion and input.

- **Mission and Goals**

The Mission Review Committee has met and developed college goals in support of the new mission statement that was approved last semester. After review and comment by the College Advisory Planning Committee (CAPC), which is the committee that originally charged the Mission Review Committee, the college goals will be presented to the Academic Senate at its February meeting for review and approval.

- **Middle States**

Over the next two and a half years, Queensborough Community College will undergo a self-study process in preparation for reaccreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). The self-study report is due in January 2019, and the site visit will take place later in spring 2019, with a final decision by the commission in June 2019. Self-study working groups will be formed in spring 2017 and will begin formal work in fall 2017. A call for volunteers to the campus community will be sent out in the spring semester. This will be a significant opportunity to provide major service to the college in a process that is central to the reaccreditation of the institution.

- **General Education Assessment Task Force**

The Task Force submitted its proposals to the Senate Curriculum Committee, which has discussed, made some revisions, and approved for presentation to the Academic Senate at its December 13 meeting. A number of faculty are participating in the Fall 2016 General Education assessment, submitting student artifacts to be assessed using the Task-Force-created rubrics for four General Education Outcomes – Communication, Analytical Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Information Management. These artifacts will be scored during the January 2017 intersession. The request for student artifacts for the Spring 2017 General Education Assessment has been issued as well.

BUDGET UPDATE

On November 30, 2016, the Academic Senate Committee on Budget Advisement reviewed the QCC Financial Plan submission to CUNY, along with other financial information requested by the committee. The Academic Senate, the Faculty Executive Committee and the Student Government were all represented as Vice President William Faulkner presented the FY '17 plan, as well as the final budget results for FY '16. A Spring 2017 meeting of the Committee will be convened to review the FY '17 budget status and the resource allocation process for FY '18.

QCC's annual Resource Planning & Allocation Process, and the Financial Plan that is ultimately submitted to the University, is an outcome of Queensborough's strategic planning begun in September. The strategic planning process includes consultation through CAPC meetings, focus groups, and open hearings, in the fall and early spring terms. For budget planning, in the Spring, divisions and departments will be provided with historical information and templates to assist in preparing budget requests. In

keeping with our practices, this process is designed to ensure our resources support our highest priorities, as reflected in the Strategic Plan developed by the College Advisory Planning Committee. Throughout the Spring, meetings are held with each Academic Chairperson and Administrative and Student Affairs department heads to review budget proposals for new and continuing funding to support their strategic priorities and operational needs. These proposals are reviewed, prioritized and approved by the President in consultation with the Cabinet, reviewed with the Academic Senate Committee on Budget Advisement, and a full annual QCC resource plan is prepared.

STUDENT HONORS

Two Queensborough students have been honored for their research presentations at the 2016 SACNAS: The National Diversity in STEM Conference in Long Beach, CA. The judges recognized *Udya Dewanamuni's* work, titled "*Comparison of Structural Properties of Iron Species in Plants and Soil*," and *Francisco Caban's* work, titled "*The Synthesis of X-Shape Molecules As Electron Acceptors in Organic Solar Cells*," as standouts among the student presentations, and selected both *Udya Dewanamuni* and *Francisco Caban* to receive one of the 2016 SACNAS Student Presentation Awards.

SACNAS is a society of scientists dedicated to fostering the success of Chicano/Hispanic and Native American scientists—from college students to professionals—to attain advanced degrees, careers, and positions of leadership in science. This year, the National Conference gathered over 4000 students and professionals. Taking place over three days, the conference showcased both undergraduate and graduate student presentations, offered scientific symposia, keynote addresses, professional development sessions, and a grand exhibit hall in which students interacted with over 300 exhibitors representing colleges and universities across the nation. This year, over 1000 posters and oral presentations were delivered at the conference.

STUDENT RESOURCES

- The **QCC Counseling Center** now provides **24/7 emergency services** through our after-hours service provider, ProtoCall. If you have an emergency outside of the Counseling Center hours, please call ProtoCall at 855-582-6069 to speak with a licensed mental health professional.
- 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 2016 semester is Wednesday, December 21st.
- 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 432-A. 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>.

- 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. 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.
- CUNY continues its partnership with **TheDream.US Scholarship Program** to assist undocumented students in obtaining scholarships. TheDream.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. Scholarships are available to currently enrolled high school students and community college students who will be completing their degrees by the end of the 2016-17 academic year. The annual application period to award scholarships for the Fall 17 cohort opened on November 15th and will close on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. Please refer students to apply at <http://www.thedream.us/scholarships/national-scholarship/>.

- **STEM Waiver –Winter 2017**

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 2017 intersession. Funding is still available and applications are still being accepted. The STEM waiver program will continue in summer 2017 for the first session. Encourage all students to apply early.

- **Milestone Scholarship –Winter 2017**

Applications for the Milestone Scholarship continue to be accepted for the January 2017 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 2016 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 UPDATE

The big news is academic. Fall 2016 marking period one is yielding the following: 119 out of 322 students achieved honor roll status while 38 are in doubt of being promoted. There are two honor rolls. Gold is defined as earning a minimum 85 in all classes with a minimum 90 average. Silver is defined as earning a minimum 65 in all classes with a minimum 85 average. Students are gearing up for an upcoming SAP event and meet up and for their finals.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The **Office of Health Services** will be hosting a **Blood Drive** on *Wednesday, December 14th* in the **Student Union Lounge** in collaboration with the New York Blood Center. There is an ongoing blood supply shortage that strains the ability of our community to meet the critical health needs of its people. As a member of the Queensborough community, you can make a difference. All students, faculty and staff are welcome. Additional information can be found at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/calendar/events/Health-Services-Blood-Drive-12-14-2016.html>.
- On *Wednesday, February 8, 2017*, the **Office of Student Activities** will be hosting the **Spring 2017 Club Fair** in the **Student Union Lounge**. This is an opportunity for QCC students to learn about all the various student clubs/organizations that exist on campus. Representatives from each club will be on hand to offer information about their organization and announcements for upcoming events planned for the spring 2017 semester.
- **QPAC:** The **Queensborough Performing Arts Center** has a lineup of shows suitable for families and children.

Live performances of the *Wizard of Oz* will be staged on Sunday, **January 8, 2017** at 2 pm and *Madagascar* on Sunday, February 5, 2017 at 2 pm.

For the *Karaoke at the Movies* program held on Saturdays, QPAC presents the animated films, *Tarzan* on **January 14, 2017** at 6:30 pm and *Tangled* on February 11, 2017, also at 6:30 pm.

- **KHC:** At the **Kupferberg Holocaust Center**, *The Jacket from Dachau: One Survivor's Search for Justice, Identity, and Home* will continue to be on view through June 2017. This original exhibition tells the story of Holocaust survival, chance encounters, and how a single artifact can weave a narrative of justice, identity, and a search for home. The exhibit is co-curated by Cary Lane, Ph.D., the KHC 2016-2017 Curator-in-Residence and Assistant Professor of English at Queensborough Community College. Please contact the Center to arrange a tour of the exhibit for your classes.

The KHC Cinema Series includes screenings of various films pertaining to the Holocaust, Genocide, and human rights. The first film is *Judgement at Nuremberg (1961)* on Wednesday, **February 8th, 2017** at 12:10 pm, about a military tribunal where German judges and prosecutors stand accused of crimes against humanity for their involvement in the Nazi regime.

In the *Drs. Bebe and Owen Bernstein Lecture Series*, the KHC presents *Reparations and the Holocaust* with Mary Maudsley, J.D. on Thursday, **February 16th, 2017** at 6:00 pm. This lecture will discuss the legal history of the process for reparations during and after the Holocaust.

The KHC continues the 2016-17 NEH Colloquia **series** awarded to QCC Faculty Coordinators: Dr. Aliza Atik (English), Dr. Kathleen Alves (English), and Dr. Mirna Lekic (Music). This year's theme is *Fleeing Genocide: Displacement, Exile and the Refugee*. The fourth event, *A Common Thread of Uncommon Courage: From Genocide Orphan to Human Rights Activist* will take place on Wednesday, **February 22nd, 2017** at 12:20 pm. The speakers are: Jacqueline Murekatete, Esq., Founder of the Genocide Survivors Foundation and Dr. Trevor Milton, Assistant Professor of Social Sciences, Queensborough Community College.