

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate

September 12, 2006

Welcome to the 2006-07 academic year. On behalf of the college community, I would like to express our appreciation to those of you have agreed to serve on this body and to those who chair the various committees of the Senate. Your work as representatives of the faculty and administration is most important. The deliberations that take place at the various committees and at the Senate floor are extremely important and valuable to the continued growth of this institution.

A lot has happened over the summer months.

In the area of Academic Affairs:

- The Reports of the Remedial Task Forces (Math Remediation, ESL, and Reading and Writing) were received. They are being analyzed by the administration, and they will be reported out to this body at the next meeting.
- The Report of the Library Task Force was received. Work was begun to change the first floor of the Library to a Learning Center. Tutoring has been decentralized and 5 of the 8 clusters are now housed in the Learning Center, one in the Tech Building, one in Math and one in Basic Skills.
- The Program Review Reports for Liberal Arts and Sciences, as well as Computerized Electrical and Industrial Design, Telecommunications Technology, and Telecommunications Technology-Verizon were received and will be presented with the administration's response to the Curriculum Committee of the Senate next month.
- The TAC/ABET evaluation team that is reviewing Computer Engineering, Electronic Engineering Technology, Laser and Fiber Optics Engineering Technology and Mechanical Engineering Technology will arrive on campus on November 6.
- The MDRC grant of \$570,000 to study the impact of learning communities has commenced.
- An NSF grant for approximately \$1 million that will establish a Laser Academy for high school teachers and students to further promote secondary – post secondary partnerships in the sciences, was received.
- The IRB will be meeting monthly and training will be offered to assist applicants with preparation of their proposals for submission.
- We welcomed 21 new faculty members.
- The first two academies, in Education and the Technologies, are beginning.
- A Title V collaborative grant with John Jay College was approved for approximately \$1 million over five years.

In the Student Affairs area:

- Enrollment is holding steady.
- The Aspire to Success Scholarships were granted. This will provide free tuition to students who take 15 credits per semester and have no remedial obligations.
- A new student government was oriented and the leadership weekend is being planned for October 14 and 15.
- The Academic Advisement Center continues to advise and register more than 4,000 new students during the academic year.
- The Counseling Center has spearheaded an individualized and proactive approach to advising and counseling the “at risk” student population.

In the Fiscal Affairs area:

- The Compact was funded at only 75% of the request. Therefore, adjustments must be made to present a balanced financial plan.
- The TAP audit disallowance was reduced to a little over \$600,000. A payment plan of three years was requested. The divisions of the College will be assessed for the TAP disallowance.
- We received a lucrative vending contract with CC Vending for exclusive pouring rights. The new vendor dispenses Pepsi.

In the Physical Plant:

- The new pavers are completed in the upper and lower quad.
- We obtained enough money from the State and the City to begin planning for the new Cafeteria.
- We are proceeding with the design of the Holocaust Resource Center and Archives.
- The Library consolidation on the 2nd floor is complete--including a new Archive room, Reserve department, and silent study areas. The replacement of the electronic security gate (2nd floor exit) and addition of second gate have been ordered, with installation expected in 4 to 6 weeks.
- The Campus Writing Center is operational on the first floor. The entrance is through the Academic Computing Center (which now houses an internet room) and via the second floor of the Library. Very soon, the main entrance will be through the first floor doors to the Library building, near the Box Office). An awning with text "QCC Learning Center" will be installed over the exterior doors.
- A space has been created for "tutoring" (both CD and other academic tutoring) in the Learning Center.
- The Association/ Auxiliary Office has been moved into the Accounting suite.
- COPE has moved from L-440 to L-430a (the adjacent office).
- Construction on office spaces for CD in L-430 is taking place. CD and CSTEP are expected to move into L-430 by the end of September. L-440 will be the new entrance and reception area for both programs.
- Construction of spaces for the new Testing Services Center has begun and the anticipated date for occupancy is October/November.
- The upgrade of M-127 has been completed.

- The gymnasium floor has been refinished.
- A study space in the Tech Building, first floor has been completed
- New lighting and a reception area in the Tech Building foyer have been completed.
- Landscaping around the Tech Building has been completed.
- Music labs are undergoing renovation.
- The Gallery Theatre is expected to be completed within the month.
- New electronic gates will be installed in the parking lots over the next few months.
- Landscaping around the lower mall is planned for this Fall.

In the College Advancement area:

- For the first time, QCC surpassed the \$1 million milestone in cash donations, excluding the \$1 million pledge for the naming of the Holocaust Resource Center and Archives after Harriet and Kenneth Kupferberg.
- A naming dedication will be held on September 18th.
- An alumni reunion has been planned for October 22.
- An electronic version of a faculty newsletter will be produced with columns written by me, by the Chair of the Faculty Executive Committee, by the Chair of the Academic Senate Steering Committee and by the President of the Student Government. The newsletter will be published bi-monthly.

I wish you all a good fall semester.

Eduardo J. Marti
President