

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate

October 14, 2008

Budget The national and local news have us focused on the impact of the financial crisis on state and NYC agencies. As one of the agencies affected, we have submitted a Plan to Eliminate the Gap (PEG) impact statement. Unless there is an event of more dramatic downturn in the New York City economy, we should be fairly unscathed this year. The reason for this relatively good position, in part, is that the Central Office was able to manage last year's expenditures for community colleges, as well as because of our over-enrollment this year. The current financial outlook for the College in 2010 is less positive. Currently, there is a Mayoral request to reduce our expenditures by 5% for 2010. We will most likely see a tuition increase and some additional controls on our expenditures. I will continue to work with the Budget sub-committee of the Faculty Personnel and Budget Committee to determine the best way to meet the challenges ahead while keeping in place the initiatives that we have undertaken.

Please be informed that while there is a moratorium on hiring administrative positions, faculty and positions providing direct student services are not subject to Central Office approval.

Middle States Evaluation Team Visit Please be informed that Dr. Edna Baehre, Chair of the team and President of Harrisburg Area Community College, will be conducting her preliminary visit on November 24. As this is the week that we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday, it is important that all members of the college community be aware of her visit and make every effort to be available for consultation. I will publish her schedule shortly.

Learning Academies The Academies are up and running with two new student managers, one for the Education Academy and one for the Visual & Performing Arts, working with departments, with new students, and all facets of the campus community to ensure student success. We are currently designing mechanisms to study the effectiveness of the Learning Academies.

Hispanic Technology Educational Systems (HETS) We belong to this consortium composed of the following institutions: Ana G. Mendez University System, BMCC/CUNY, Bronx Community/CUNY, Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Lehman College/CUNY, Hostos CC/CUNY, University of Texas at Brownsville, Universidad del Sagrado Corazon, Burlington County College, Universidad Central de Bayamon, Huertas Junior College, Universidad Carlos Albizu; Laureate International Universities, Catholic University of Puerto Rico, Kutztown University, Fort Hays State University, University of New Mexico, California State University at Dominguez Hills.

Queensborough is the New York City regional home of the consortium. I've asked Dean Paul Marchese to be the Queensborough Community College coordinator of the Consortium. HETS can benefit QCC by providing a vehicle for collaboration with other colleges with similar interests, seeking grant funding as a consortium and possibly publishing our findings in their new on-line journal.

Conference of the College Please note that the Conference of the College is taking place this Friday. I hope that most of you will be able to attend.

Presidential Lecture Eric Alterman, Distinguished Professor of English at Brooklyn College and Professor of Journalism at the CUNY School of Journalism, will lecture tomorrow on the “Liberty and the News.” This public lecture will be held at M-136 at 4:00 p.m. A reception will follow.

New Enrollment With the economy being what it is, nonetheless, we continue to see enrollment increases this semester of 500 students over this time last year.

Student Leadership Weekend was held October 3 through 5, with an on-campus roundtable on October 3rd that included the President and his Cabinet.

International Students At the request of the Mayor’s office, Queensborough provided international students to read names and participate in the September 11 ceremony at Ground Zero. A special thanks to Tunde Kashimawo for selecting the students and organizing this effort.

Walk to Aspire The annual Walk to Aspire will take place on November 12, around the track on our athletic field. Teams are in place, and I am asking for everyone’s participation in supporting the team of your choice in this important effort to raise scholarship funds for our students.

Sustainability Campus Council The Sustainability Campus Council will have a kick off meeting on Tuesday, October 22, at 3:00 p.m. in the Oakland dining room. This year, Queensborough will join in the CUNY effort to *go green*: Sustainability will be a topic of discussion, education and action on our campus. If you have an interest in volunteering for this effort, please feel free to join the meeting. Contact Vice President Diane Call for further information.