

**Queensborough Community College**  
of The City University of New York

***Report of the President***  
to the  
**Academic Senate**  
**November 13, 2012**

**Hurricane Sandy**

Over the last several weeks, our community, city and region have experienced what for some have been devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy. The aftermath of the storm continues for many of our campus community members, their families, and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Throughout this time, colleagues who were entrusted to prepare and watch over our campus have demonstrated the extraordinary spirit and dedication which characterizes our community. The staff of Buildings and Grounds and our Public Safety Officers were on duty before and throughout the storm. Many worked continuously for days, and in many cases, without knowing the fate of their own families. Staff from Information Technology worked tirelessly to maintain our internet and telephone services. At one point, internet operations had to be re-routed through the University, and early in the storm, Con Edison was poised to shut down power to the campus pre-emptively, to safeguard its equipment. As QCC was an Office of Emergency Management evacuation center, truckloads of supplies began arriving at the college the Friday before the storm. A number of evacuees were accommodated in our gymnasium, including some who had special needs. Community volunteers assisted the evacuees in shifts over the week, before the evacuees were relocated on November 1 to another center. Hurricane Sandy tested us, as individuals and as a college community. It can be no surprise that many quiet heroes emerged to keep our campus safe and operational. I know you will join me in offering a “thank you” to these very special colleagues.

***In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Grief and Counseling services are available to staff, faculty and students through the Department of Student Affairs Counseling Center. Faculty and staff are encouraged to explore additional services available through the CUNY Work/Life Program at [www.cuny.edu/worklife](http://www.cuny.edu/worklife)***

**Enrollment Update**

- QCC achieved its Fall 2012 enrollment goals, with 15,843 students registered, including over 3300 freshmen. QCC was commended by the CUNY Office of Enrollment Management for decreasing its overall headcount while maintaining the FTE profile of 11,384.6.

- The Academic Advisement plan for Winter/Spring 2013 is well underway, and members of the advisement office are working with the Office of Academic Affairs to prepare for Fall 2013 advisement and registration which will begin in late February.
- QCC's Financial Aid Services office continues to work through programming glitches with the CUNYfirst financial aid implementation project.

### **Curriculum**

- Our dual/joint degree program in Nursing with York has been approved by CAPPR, and is expected to be approved by the CUNY Board of Trustees at the November 26 meeting. Pending NYSED approval, students can apply for admission to the program in September.

### **FY 13 Budget Update**

- Our financial plan for fiscal year 13 was prepared in accordance with the priorities established in our Strategic Plan, as developed via the college advisory planning process. Due to increases in both state and city funding, as well as an increase in tuition, our projected FY 13 budget is more than \$85 million dollars. These increased revenues resulted in more than \$4 million dollars in new FY 13 Compact funding. Our top priority for the use of these funds was the allocation of funding for 41 new full-time faculty positions. In addition, we added new positions in academic technology, tutoring, articulation, and we were able to fill the longstanding director vacancy in the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Although we do not yet know the fiscal implications of tropical storm Sandy, our budget is stable and includes a prudent reserve. The strategic planning process for fiscal year 14 is now underway, and the College Advisory Planning Committee will hold its first meeting of the year later this month.

### **Faculty and Staff Update**

- We are delighted to welcome Dr. Jane E. Hindman as the new Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Dr. Hindman comes to us from the Southwest with over 30 years of experience in higher education. She earned her Ph.D. in Rhetoric, Composition, and the Teaching of English from the University of Arizona, where she also received Masters degrees in ESL and Literature. Her various articles related to pedagogy and academic professional practice have been published in the Journal of Basic Writing, Writing Program Administrator, and Journal of Advanced Composition, as well as edited collections. Dr. Hindman has served as a journal reviewer for College English, College Composition and Communication, JAC, and the Community Literacy Journal. Most recently Dr. Hindman served as the Retention Specialist at the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Santa Fe NM; at IAIA she initiated and/or collaborated on several high impact learning strategies. She has taught developmental writing, coordinated the tutoring center, and was the project director for the Walmart Student Success Collaborative grant. Dr. Hindman is looking forward to meeting the faculty, to learn about their pedagogical successes and struggles, and facilitate their efforts to publish scholarship on teaching and

learning. CETL is now back at full staff, with a full-time Director, along with Dr. Meg Tarafdar, who continues her able service as Associate Director. Please stop by the office to meet Dr. Hindman in L 315.

- In the Department of Student Affairs, a search is concluding for the Director of Enrollment Management and a search has been launched for next Director of Academic Advisement to replace Dr. Brian Kerr, who was recently named Director of Articulation, Transfer and Educational Partnerships in the Office of Academic Affairs.

### Opportunities for Students

- Please encourage qualified students to apply for Spring 2013 Continuing Student Merit Scholarships. Vice President Ellen Hartigan notified currently enrolled students of this opportunity via Tigermail and through announcements on the QCC website. Up to 50 scholarships of \$500 each will be awarded and applied to Spring 2013 QCC tuition bills. **The deadline to apply is Monday, December 10th.** A student must be returning to QCC for the Spring 2013 semester to be considered for the scholarship. *Fall 2012 recipients do not need to reapply: if they maintain a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA and are registered full-time for the Spring 2013 semester, their awards will be renewed.* To be considered for a Spring 2013 merit scholarship:
  - Applicants must have completed a minimum of 24 QCC degree credits by the time of application or at the end of the Fall 2012 semester.
  - Applicants must have completed all remedial coursework by end of Fall 12.
  - As of December 10, applicants must be registered for a minimum of 15 credits in a degree program for the upcoming Spring 2013 semester
  - Applicants must have a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.25 or higher.
  - Applicants must submit a 250 word essay about themselves and their future career goals.
- This Spring 2013, QCC is sending 16 students to Salzburg, Austria over the spring break as part of our Study Abroad program. The application deadline date is November 16, 2012. Further information is available in the Office Center for International Affairs, Immigration, and Study Abroad in L 431.

### Upcoming Events

- Our Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center opens an important exhibit on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, highlighting examples of prejudice which serve as a pre-cursor to the atrocities of the Holocaust: Cruel Correspondence: Anti-Semitic Postcards 1895-1930
- In our Art Gallery, all are invited to view current exhibits: Three Generations Exhibit through January 12 - a collection of art work by three generations of Spanish artists, the Aguilera family; and through Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, please view an extraordinary exhibit of Mozambique Masks, a presentation of native art featuring the traditions of this important community.

- Queensborough's Professional Performing Art Series presents: Saturday, Nov. 17th - Rob Schneider Live! And on Sunday, Nov. 18th – Broadway's Elite in Concert. Tickets, if available, can be purchased through our Box Office.
- The annual CUNY World AIDS Day Health Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Student Union building.
- Queensborough's Celebration of Donors event, recognizing individuals who contributed to the QCC Fund, Inc. in support of student scholarships, the Art Gallery, the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and faculty development and research will be held on Thursday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m. in the Oakland Dining Room.