

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate
October 9, 2012

Early Alert

As you may recall, with the help of a grant from IBM and our IT department, last year the College developed a new Early Alert system that allows faculty to send an electronic message to advisers about students in their classes who are in academic difficulty. Last semester we opened this system to all faculty, using the e Roster system that many faculty members use to create attendance sheets for their classes. Now we are scaling up the Early Alert system, with multiple opportunities for faculty to send alert messages. *The goal of this system is to reach students who need attention early enough in the semester that they can take corrective action and improve their academic performance.*

This system enables faculty to flag students who have not been attending or doing well in classes so advisors can intervene on behalf of instructors. The system will save the time and effort many faculty spend trying to contact students who are viewed as ‘at risk.’ Faculty may also write instructions in the comments section if they want the advisors to have the students “see instructor” or “go to tutoring.” As of October 1, there were 1,864 Early Alert flags set by faculty. One hundred and eleven students were flagged more than once, and 3 students were flagged three times, by separate faculty. The majority of the flags were set by Math Department faculty (863), followed by English (428), and Business (383).

College support personnel received weekly reports Monday morning at the end of each reporting cycle. Each service office responded differently to the alerts, depending on how many students they had on the report. Student Affairs (907 students) sent Tigermail blasts and a letter in the mail to everyone, followed by calls to the students. The smaller service programs have generally been contacting the students individually either by phone or email. Additional personnel have been hired or reassigned to reach out to students.

Most service offices advised students in the same manner. Students with attendance flags were reminded of the importance of attending classes and the possible effect of a potential grade of WU for non-attendance on their GPA. Withdrawal period dates were reiterated and processes clarified.

Performance issues were addressed according to professors’ comments or based on personal discussion with students (when possible). In cases where no comments existed, a recommendation to see the professor for the specified class during office hours was made so as to clarify the nature/cause of the flag. Where applicable, students were referred to tutoring (or have their tutoring hours increased) and, in some cases, counseling. Students responded

positively to the outreach and were thankful for the attention and the opportunity to clarify policies and important dates. A few advisors received responses from students who expressed appreciation for “someone watching over them.” Some students were surprised at their performance flag, as in some classes, formal feedback on quizzes, tests, etc. had not been received.

Student in the News

Congratulations to Mr. Liang Lin, who will be one of two students honored as a Thomas Tam Scholar at CUNY’s 11th Annual Asian American Asian Research Institute on Thursday, November 15. Mr. Lin is a second year student at QCC in Liberal Arts and Sciences with a 4.00 GPA. Liang came to the United States from China in 2004 with his father, a single parent. When he arrived, Liang knew very little English. Barely two years later, at Flushing International High School, he became involved with several leadership programs, organized by the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families. Liang continued his work on community based projects, and was accepted as a Fall 2011 fellow for the Civic Leaders for Tomorrow Public Policy Fellowship, sponsored by the Office of the Manhattan Borough President.

High Impact Activities

E Portfolio: Student Affairs and Academic Affairs have partnered to introduce first time full time freshmen to ePortfolio - a high impact activity - in every ST-100 class this semester. This implementation (begun last spring as a pilot program) has been challenging: each ST-100 section is scheduled in a computer lab for that one hour, and various staff have been brought in to engage the freshmen in creating their ePortfolios. Many thanks to Jo Pantaleo and the staff of The Basic Skills Learning Center who have been in the vanguard of ePortfolio and helped with this project as well. Since the ST-100 classes are now offered in five week cycles, the logistics of scheduling time in computer labs have challenged the team, but the outcome of expanding student experiences with ePortfolio in the BlackBoard system has been positive.

Program Review

Each year, QCC faculty from sponsoring departments, supported by OAA, conduct a self-study of one or more of our degree programs. Known as Program review, the process is conducted over the academic year with the objective of providing an opportunity for faculty to reexamine curriculum, to assess program outcomes, and to make recommendations for improvement: This year, our Liberal Arts degree program will be reviewed by a team of faculty from the Departments of English, Foreign Languages, History, and Social Sciences. This faculty review committee writes the report, with findings and recommendations about the degree program. An external review committee visits the campus to assess the validity of the report and to make recommendations of its own. The review committee then prepares an action plan, reviewed and discussed by the chairs of the sponsoring department(s), the president, the vice president for academic affairs, and the review committee. The final stage of Program Review is the development of an administrative response, prepared by the vice president, and operationalization of an action plan. Our thanks to the faculty who will serve on this year’s Program Review of our LA 1 program: Dr. Arancha Borrachero, Foreign Languages and Literature; Dr. David Humphries and Dr. Susan Jacobowitz, English Department; Dr. Wei Lai,

Basic Educational Skills Department, Dr. Jane Poulsen, Social Sciences Department (Sociology) and Dr. Megan Elias, Department of History.

Responsible Conduct of Research

Please note the information sent to all Faculty by Dr. Raji Subramaniam, our Research Integrity Officer: All students doing research (funded, unfunded, research courses, internship or volunteers) are required to complete the CUNY Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training. *This mandatory training has three components:* (1) Online training offered through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) available at www.citiprogram.org, to be completed within 6 weeks of the student starting their research with a copy of the certificate of completion sent to Dr. Subramaniam. (2) Participation in a campus RCR training workshop, scheduled for the last week of October. Note: Students will have to complete their online CITI modules before attending the campus RCR training. (3) Individual training between the Principle Investigator (PI)/Project Director (PD) and the Student. These ongoing sessions are specific to the students' field and research setting. The PI/PD has to maintain a record of these discussions. For more information, contact Dr. Subramaniam at rsubramaniam@qcc.cuny.edu or Dean Paul Marchese, Office of Academic Affairs.

College-Wide committees

The College has several advisory committees which serve the campus community, including students, faculty and staff. Members are appointed by the President, and serve as representatives of various campus constituencies. Please note these committees, their scope and their current membership:

College Advisory Committee on Campus Security

Charge: The College Advisory Committee on Campus Security exists as part of Chapter 457 of the NY State laws of 1990 which require each campus of the State University, City University, and independent colleges that receive state aid under section 6401 of the education law, to create an advisory committee regarding campus security. *ARTICLE 129-A. Regulation by colleges of conduct on campuses and other college property used for educational purposes. NY Edu 6450 (1998)*

Campus Committee Membership:

- Vice President for Student Affairs - *Ms. Ellen Hartigan, Chair*
- Director of Public Safety - *Mr. Ed Locke*
- Department Chair - *Professor Stu Asser*
- Faculty member - *Dr. Wilma Fletcher Anthony*
- Students (2) - *Mr. Preston Baker and Ms. Miriama Coulibaly*

Sexual Harassment Campus Committee

Charge: (From the current July 2010 "Procedures for Implementing of the City University's Policy Against the Sexual Harassment" states in Section V. Procedures for Implementation of the City University's Policy Against Sexual Harassment) The Sexual Harassment Awareness and Intake Committee is responsible for educating employees about sexual harassment and its potential consequences to the University community, and for overseeing sexual harassment training.

Campus Committee membership:

- Affirmative Action Officer/Coordinator - *Ms. Mavis Hall, Chair*

- Department Chair - *Dr. Jonas Falik*
- Member of Faculty Executive Committee -
- Student Affairs Counselor - *Dr. Dorith Brodbar*
- Personnel representative - *Ms. Ellen Adams*
- Human Resources representative - *Dean Liza Larios*
- Office of Academic Affairs representative - *Mr. Ernie Hart*
- DC 37 representative - *Ms. Amy Baltajian*
- Student - *Ms. Miriama Coulibaly*

College Advisory Committee for 504/ADA Compliance Committee

Charge: The 504/ADA Committee serves as an advisory committee to the 504/ADA Coordinator and assists in formulating new ideas and monitoring the College for 504/ADA compliance.

Committee Members: The Committee is comprised of representatives from various divisions, departments, programs and services that make up the College. The Coordinator for Disabled Student Services is a member of the committee.

Campus Committee Membership:

- Affirmative Action Officer—*Ms. Mavis Hall, Chair*
- Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities—*Mr. Benami Freier*
- Human Resources and Labor Relations Representative—*Ms. Sangeeta Noel*
- Personnel Office representative—*Ms. Ysabel Macea*
- Representative from the Academic Senate—*Dr. Elizabeth Bartels and Dr. Matthew Lau*
- Office of Academic Affairs Representative—*Mr. Ernie Hart*
- DC 37 Representative—*Ms. Joann Rollo*
- Environmental Health & Safety Officer—*Mr. Mel Rodriguez*
- Facilities Division Representative—*Mr. Joe Cartolano*
- College Nurse—*Ms. Isabel Hocevar*
- Department Chairperson—*Dr. Young Kim*

QCC's New OneCard

Beginning October 1, Faculty and staff are invited to update their QCC ID card with the new OneCard. The new QCC OneCard is more than your official Queensborough Community College ID. As daily parking tokens are phased out later this fall, the OneCard will allow access for daily parkers. OneCard can be used as a debit card for on-campus food purchases (with 'bonus dollars' awarded each time \$50 is put on the card). Faculty and staff may pick up a new OneCard beginning Monday, October 1 in the Science Building, Room S-124. Learn more at www.qcc.cuny.edu/onecard

Study Abroad

This January, QCC is offering for the very first time a faculty-led Study Abroad program in Reggio Emilia, Italy for Winter Session 2013! CUNY students in good academic standing (minimum 2.00 GPA) may apply to study Elementary Italian I or II in Italy from January 3 through 26, 2013. The cost is \$3,390 (excluding airfare) and includes accommodation with host families (meals included), excursions to Bologna, Modena, Parma, Venice; visits to Ferrari Museum, balsamic vinegar and Parmesan cheese factories with tastings, and activities such as cooking lessons and conversation partners. *Application deadlines:* STOCS Application

Deadline: October 9, 2012 and *Application Deadline for all others: October 19, 2012*. For more information, contact Dr. Federica Goldoni, Department of Foreign Languages and Literature or Ms. Lampeto (Betty) Efthymiou, Office of International Affairs, Immigration and Study Abroad—or visit the QCC Website.

QCC's Human Resources Advisory Council

Vice President Ellen F. Hartigan, is chairing a newly formed *Queensborough Community College Human Resources Advisory Council*, a partnership with local business and industry. The main goal of this advisory board is to gain the advice and guidance of HR representatives in the Health, Technology, and Business industries regarding their changing workforce needs, job trends, evolving hiring practices and expectations of applicants and eventual employees. This effort will better position our students to secure full-time or part-time employment. QCC will partner with advisory board members to provide networking opportunities for Queensborough Community College students, as well as strategies for students to consider when applying for employment in these sectors. Inaugural corporate members come from our Business and Industry Advisory Boards and our QCC Fund Board. Representatives from Kepco, Cablevision, AFLAC, Visiting Nurse Service, North Shore University Hospital are inaugural Council members, along with Connie Peluso, Director of QCC Career Services. The first meeting of the Council will be held this semester.

The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives

This fall semester, The Human Rights Center at the University of Maine will feature our KHRCA exhibit, *Cartoonists, Nazis and the Holocaust*. And, the Holocaust Museum and Education Center of Southwest Florida located in Naples, Florida will be exhibiting the KHRCA's program *Sousa, Escape from the Holocaust in the Caribbean*, June 1 through July 30, 2013.

Faculty News

Dr. Paris Svoronos and Dr. Nidha Gadura represented Queensborough at the NY State Senate Leadership and Hispanic Federation's 2nd Annual Hispanic Conference, Unidad Latina, this past weekend. Drs. Gadura and Svoronos, along with Dean Avrom Caplan, who chairs CUNY's Council on Undergraduate Education, are collaborating on a new NSF grant submission.

Upcoming Events

- On Thursday, October 18, 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 full time for 20, 30 and 40 years. This year we will celebrate with Barbara Bucholtz (Health Education, Physical Education and Dance) Carolyn Garofalo (Financial Services), Mary Anne Meyer (College Now), Faustino Quintanilla (QCC Art Gallery), Haya Adner (Mathematics and Computer Sciences), Suzanne D'Agnes (Business), Mona Fabricant (Mathematics and Computer Sciences), Sarah Losito, (Finance and Administration), Arlene Podos (Business), Jerry Sitbon (Engineering Technology), Peter

Alimaras (Social Sciences) Kitty Bateman (basic Educational Skills) Marshall Peller (Social Sciences), and Allan Rauchway (Social Sciences).

- The **Fall 2012 Presidential Lecture** will be held on Wednesday, November 7, at 4:30 p.m. in M 136 with Danny Simmons as our speaker. An artist, co-founder and chairman of the Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation, and founding member of QCC's Art Gallery Advisory Council, Mr. Simmons is an abstract expressionist painter, whose work has been exhibited nationally in many permanent collections, including the United Nations, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City, and Hampton University in Virginia. Students, faculty, staff, and the community are welcome to attend his presentation.
- The Office of Admissions will host its annual **Fall Open House** for prospective students on Saturday, November 10th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We are looking forward to your participation! This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our beautiful campus and the outstanding faculty of Queensborough to prospective students and their families.