

**QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
of The City University of New York

***Report of the President***  
to the  
**Academic Senate**  
**September 11, 2012**

Welcome to the Fall term.

It has been a very busy summer at the college. Our enrollment management team and their staff have worked with our department chairpersons to enroll almost 16,000 students including 3,300 new Freshmen.

In addition to our students, we also welcome new colleagues:

There are seventy six new Faculty appointments this fall - including new and replacement lines - filled by 55 substitute faculty/CLTs and 21 new (regular) faculty appointments. Currently, we have 378 full time faculty, including CLTs. Two hundred and fifty six faculty and CLTs have been hired since 2002 - representing a 44% increase in the number of full time faculty in the last ten years. Also joining QCC this year are HEO colleagues in the Bursar Office, Business Services, the Registrar Office, the Campus Learning Center and Veterans Affairs. ....And we say goodbye to a number of faculty colleagues who retired this past year: Paul Azrak, Jay Mullin, Jim Valentino, Jeff Kurnit, Anne Marie Bourbon; Michael Brozinsky; Julia Ortiz Griffin; Dave McCauley; Donald Tsang; Dave McCauley; Marty Jacobs, and Antonio Verdes.

Also, please welcome Dr. Regina Rochford who has been elected to serve as Chairperson of the Department of Basic Educational Skills.

QCC continues its strong support for faculty/staff research and their presentation of research outcomes. Our Office of Academic Affairs sponsors Pedagogical Research Challenge grants awarding \$30,000 on a competitive basis. The Office of Academic Affairs also provides \$100,000 to faculty and HEO staff who make presentations on their research outcomes at regional, national and international conferences. The QCC Fund Inc., our foundation, allocates 25K for faculty development and presentations. And the PSC travel funds for this year are \$43,516 to support faculty and HEO research presentations.

**Summer News/Accomplishments:**

- Alex Burnett, our Executive Director of Communications and External Affairs, has been working with Dave Moretti on the QCC Website to create a new, cleaner and simpler format, calendars specific to academic, QCC and CUNY events, and the addition of “Fast Facts” and QCC faculty, staff and students in the news. The look of our website will continue to evolve over the next few months.

- QCC continues to be a vanguard college for CUNYfirst implementation - and the University relied on QCC alone to launch the student financial system. It was and continues to be an extraordinary effort by our staff and especially for our Financial Aid and Bursar staff. I offer a special 'thank you' to Ronnie Lukas who is, and has been, recognized as the leader for the University in this arduous task for the development and implementation of the student financial aid and billing systems.
- Our business services staff, in addition to year-end budget close outs and preparation for annual audits of those budgets for tax levy operations and our three related entities, development of our FY 13 financial plan, and launch of our expenditure processes, began implementation of the procurement module for CUNYfirst. I am especially appreciative of the contributions of our budget office colleagues for their leadership in these efforts under Vice President Sherri Newcomb and Dean Bill Faulkner.
- For the third year, students in our fall freshman academies who were within 3 credits of completing half of their degree in one calendar year, were offered a summer scholarship for a QCC course to reach that Milestone. Seventy six students took a QCC summer course for free with very strong outcomes: 91% completion rate with an average GPA of 3.66. Congratulations to them, and to Dean Michele Cuomo for her coordination of this program which is supported through the business partnership with our Barnes and Noble campus bookstore.
- Over the summer we received the official letter from the National League of Nursing Accreditation Commission awarding our Nursing Program the full eight year reaccreditation, with commendation for excellence in meeting all of its standards for eight years. Congratulations to our colleagues in the Nursing Department who worked for over two years to conduct their self-study and develop their written report to the accrediting agency.
- As of this summer, we officially welcome our Department of Engineering Technology colleagues - as the merger of ECET and METDD departments was ratified at CUNY's Board of Trustee meeting of June 2012. The faculty - now 30 strong - are all together in the Technology Building following a renovation of office suites. They are settled in just in time as they prepare for their programs' reaccreditation by TAC of ABET in 2014, led by Stu Asser, Nick DiZinno and Belle Birchfield
- Our Building and Grounds staff have been working seven days a week to complete the many improvements of our campus facilities. In partnership with the ACC and IT, Joe Cartolano and Arthur Perkins led an extraordinary effort to complete projects which on other campuses would require millions of dollars to outsource the work - and many years to complete. Their accomplishments include: The Engineering

Technology faculty offices; creation of office space for Speech Communication and Theatre Arts faculty, new colleagues in English and Math, staff in ASAP, CUNY Start, the Campus Learning Center and the addition of three classrooms through a reconfiguration of existing space. In this last year, over 17,000 square feet have been “re-purposed” for instructional and faculty/staff office spaces. All the campus community can be proud of the renovation of our Registrar Offices and Welcome Center, the new multi-media facility in CETL for faculty development activities and pedagogical research; and the renovation of our lecture halls: M-136, S-111, S-112, and LB-14.

- Also, over the last several months 11 additional multi- media podium rooms have been added, making a total of 75 smart rooms with an additional 10 planned for this FY13. Combined with the 24 teaching spaces with alternate technology, the total number of classrooms with educational presentation technology is now 99! Our colleagues in the Engineering Technology Department -Jerry Sitbon and Mike Metaxas - created a new version of KIDCAR, Keyboard Initiated Camera Disabler Auto Reactivator, their patented device instructors can use to control the security cameras monitoring equipment in smart rooms. Under their supervision, 100 units were built by Tech Fee Interns this summer. Jerry and Mike also wrote an installation manual, a user’s manual, and they designed an operating instruction sheet for posting on every unit.
- One project our amazing B and G staff cannot accomplish alone is our long planned capital project to create a new dining area and cafeteria in and adjacent to the Science Building Courtyard. This project has been our dream for many years, and it required the support of our Borough President Helen Marshall, our City Council - especially the Queens delegation - our legislators in the NYS Senate and Assembly, the Mayor’s Office and our University. For over eight years we have lobbied for and secured capital funding, receiving a bit each year, and now the first phase of the project will finally begin next summer. At its completion, the new facility will provide a beautiful dining space which can seat 450 for formal occasions, 500 for casual dining, a servery and cooking facilities. The project will renovate and expand rest room facilities and an additional elevator for the Science Building.
- This semester, QCC launched a new identification card: the QCC OneCard. It was distributed to new students and made available to returning students. The OneCard will be offered to faculty and staff later this fall. The card offers many more options than the previous ID. The faculty/staff OneCard will be used to utilize the services and materials at Kurt R. Schmeller Library and access campus locations such as the gymnasium, labs, etc. It will also comprise a “TigerBucks” account, in which the holder will be able to load funds on the card for campus dining at Metropolitan Foods locations, parking, copying, and printing. Student cards will include a second account, called “Dining Dollars,” where they can load funds and purchase food tax-free at Metropolitan Foods locations. Students will also receive five-percent “Bonus

Dining Dollars” each time they load a minimum of \$50 onto their “Dining Dollars” account.

- Also effective August 27, QCC is now a tobacco free campus. Beginning today, Queensborough Community College is a tobacco-free campus. This policy applies to all CUNY campuses and is meant to promote better health in our students, faculty and staff. If you need to smoke or use tobacco products, you will need to leave the campus. The policy prohibits the use of tobacco products on all grounds and facilities, including indoor locations and outdoor locations such as playing fields, entrances and exits to buildings and parking lots. The policy applies to all tobacco products, including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chew tobacco and e-cigarettes. CUNY’s tobacco-free policy was developed to create a safe and healthy working and learning environment for students, staff and faculty. Queensborough’s Office of Health Services offers free Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) – patches and gum – to students, faculty, staff, retirees and community members. Visit MC-02 in the Medical Arts Building to pick up your FREE kit and/or click here for more information on tobacco counseling and referrals for stress and anxiety related tobacco cessation issues.
- A new degree program, our dual/joint degree program with John Jay in Forensic Accounting, is effective this fall. Also, pending campus and University action, we expect our Dual Joint Program in Nursing with York will be approved by the end of this year.
- Last year, QCC and The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives were awarded a prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities grant, one of six in the country awarded to a community college. Titled *Integrating Cultural Resources into the Humanities Curriculum*, the project will offer a five year series of colloquia to engage faculty and students in the Humanities. Colloquia themes will change annually based upon a competitive proposal submission process among our faculty. In this the inaugural year, the theme is Human Rights, Justice and Genocide under the direction of Dr. Sarah Danielsson from our History Department. Dr. Danielsson has prepared a series of events directed to scholars, educators, students and the community at large. The year-long program begins today with a day-long symposium at the CUNY Graduate Center with a gathering of leading scholars in the fields of Genocide and Human Rights Studies. Colloquia events are free and open to all. Future events will be held primarily on our campus over the 2012-13 academic year.
- CETL, our Center for Teaching and Learning, in partnership with the Academic Senate Committee on Cultural and Archival Resources (CAR) will offer a seminar series this semester on “Making Cultural Connections: Diversity & Global Learning Across the Curriculum.” The events are designed by CETL and CAR to demonstrate and encourage pedagogy that utilizes the resources of the QCC Art Gallery,

Queensborough's Performing Arts Center (QPAC), and Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center & Archives.

**Periodic Review:**

- This semester, preparations will begin for Queensborough Community College's Periodic Review Report. This report, which is submitted five years after the decennial self-study and evaluation team visit, is due to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education on June 1, 2014. As a retrospective, current, and prospective analysis of the institution, the report involves a two-year process of data gathering and analysis, writing and revision, and campus review and discussion before final submission. The report provides significant institutional progress and planning information to Middle States and assists it to determine whether the institution remains in and can sustain compliance with accreditation standards. The report is not a mini-self-study; the emphasis is on brevity in providing the required information. As a follow-up to the self-study from 2009 and the monitoring report that followed in 2010, the period review report will have to demonstrate the continued implementation of comprehensive, integrated, and sustained processes to assess institutional effectiveness and the achievement of institutional mission and goals. The campus effort will be led by a faculty and an administrative co-chair overseeing a small faculty committee responsible for writing and editing the report. The committee will collect information from both teaching and non-teaching departments, discuss that information with relevant college committees, including consultation with Senate committees, and conduct focus groups prior to the presentation of the final draft report to the college community.

**Upcoming Events:**

- The Office of Sponsored Programs is offering workshops on How to Prepare a PSC-CUNY Grant Application for faculty who are considering this opportunity. Faculty are invited to attend the workshop on either Wednesday, September 12 or Wednesday, September 26 from 1 to 3 in L-117. As there have been changes to the program guidelines and especially to the application deadline (moved up one month to December 15), these workshops will be helpful to new and experienced grant applicants. PSC-CUNY grants provide support for intellectual enquiry in all areas of scholarship and for creative activities. Funds for research and creative projects are available to all permanent full-time members of the instructional staff, and the junior members of the faculty in particular (untenured associate professor, assistant professor, instructor, and lecturer) who are on the regular University payroll.
- Degree Completion Day: Wednesday, October 3, 2012  
New York Community College Completion Day is a state-wide New York Community College Association of Presidents initiative involving all 37 SUNY and CUNY community colleges, to encourage students to complete their associate degree programs. On Wednesday, October 3rd, in M-136 during club hours, QCC will host its second annual Completion Day event, designed to create awareness among QCC students about why it is important to complete their associate degree before transferring to a senior college.

The program will bring back recent QCC alumni to speak about the benefits they gained as QCC graduates, and encourage students to "pledge" they will graduate. Dr. Emily Tai and Dr. Paris Svoronos, faculty advisors of the Lambda Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa are leading our College's effort in partnership with Student Affairs, our Student Government Association, and our Intercollegiate Athletics Director and coaching staff. I urge everyone to encourage our students to participate in this important initiative.

- Our annual Celebration of Service for faculty and staff who have served at the College for 20, 30 and 40 years will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2012 in the Student Union. This year's honorees include: Barbara Bucholtz, Carolyn Garafalo, Mary Anne Meyer, Faustino Quintanilla, Haya Adner, Suzanne D'Agnes, Mona Fabricant, Sarah Losito, Arlene Podos, Jerry Sitbon, Peter Alimaras, Kitty Bateman, Marshall Peller and Alan Rauchway.
- The Fall Faculty Meeting will be held during club hours on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 in M-136.