

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
of The City University of New York

*Report of the President*  
to the Academic Senate

September 13, 2005

Welcome to the 2005-06 academic year! It is going to be a good year.

As many of you heard at the welcoming meeting of September 7, the University Performance Management Report, issued this past June, shows that we are doing very well.

The good work of the faculty of this College is being recognized. I took the liberty of inviting all the new members of the faculty and administrators so that they can see for themselves how this Senate operates and, hopefully, they will become involved, either as elected members or as administrative representatives, in this very important body.

As we begin the academic year, I urge all the members of this body to begin thinking about the up-coming strategic planning process. As you may know, the CAPC is composed of all the leaders of the different constituencies - the administration, the Faculty Executive Committee, the Academic Senate and the Student Government - that advise me in the formulation of the Strategic Plan. We start our meetings in September and begin formulating the proposed 2006-07 Strategic Plan during the Fall semester.

In addition to the immediacy of the 2006-07 strategic plan, this year I asked Howard Lapidus to begin a thorough and in-depth review of the long term needs of this College. Through focus groups, I intend for him to touch every constituency and to bring to the CAPC, before the end of the academic year, a draft of a long term plan for the College that is consonant with the University's Master Plan. This will help us prepare for the upcoming visit of the Middle States Association scheduled for 2008-09. We will have to prepare a Self-Study Report during the 2007-08 academic year, and the long term plan will give us a good "running start."

By now, you may have heard that our operating budget is not as good as we expected. Enrollment is flat, and our expenditure plan is being finalized. It appears that our revenues will be less than what we need and not enough for us to meet all the requests by the departments made last year. In addition, we are responsible for 1% of the cost of the collective bargaining agreement, and we are in the midst of a TAP audit that could impact our budget. However, I can assure you that we will end the year with a balanced budget. We have managed in the past and we will manage again.

The capital budget calls for the beginning stages of the HRCA design. The architects have been selected. They are: Thanhauser, Esterson and Kapell, N.Y., N.Y. However, we are waiting for the final approval of the contract by the Office of Management and Budget of the City. Once approved, please be assured that representatives from this body will be involved in the deliberations. Construction is expected to begin next year.

Dr. Shulman and Sarah Roberts both retired and resigned, respectively, from the HRCA. Dr. Arthur Flug is the new Executive Director of the HRCA, and we are currently searching for a new Assistant Director. The present Rape of Nanjing Exhibit has been well received by the Chinese community. Many distinguished visitors have seen it, including the Consul General of the People's Republic of China, Ambassador Liu, and the Director General of the Taipei Economic & Cultural Development Office, Ambassador Hsia. Please tell your colleagues

of this important exhibit and have students use it as a tool to understand how unbridled prejudice can affect a large segment of a population. The HRCA is there to be used by all of our students to study the impact of prejudice on this world.

An exhibit on African Art, on display in our Art Gallery through September 30<sup>th</sup>, received accolades in an August 19<sup>th</sup> review in the New York Times. It is important that students use this exhibit to gain the aesthetic appreciation and the historical context that it offers. The purpose of these exhibits is to use this facility as a laboratory for all of our students to be in contact with world-class art.

The QPAC starts the celebration of its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a great new event. At 12 p.m. on September 18, the first cultural tour group (of 50) arrives on campus. They will be met at the Art Gallery for an escorted tour of the exhibit, followed by lunch in the Oakland Dining Room and then at 3 p.m., will attend our performance of Catskills on Broadway! This will be a year of firsts for QPAC that will include a new website, a children's series, and a festival of interpretive performances for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

This is going to be a busy year. There are many important activities around the campus and, sometimes it is difficult to fit everything in. Below are some dates that I want to bring to your attention:

Friday, October 28, 2005 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Faculty Executive Committee's Third Conference of the College: "Making the Possible Actual"
Wednesday, November 16 4:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Presidential Lecture Series Dr. Arthur Levine, President, Teachers College, Columbia University
Thursday, January 25, 2006 9:00 to noon	College Convocation
Wednesday, March 22 1:00-3:00 p.m.	Faculty Executive Committee's Spring Meeting
Friday, May 5 9:00- 3:00 p.m.	Second CUNY Gen Ed Conference "New Perspectives on Old Debates: Gen Ed in the Disciplines and Professions"