



Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate
May 14, 2013

Enrollment Updates

- The Enrollment Management team activities are fully focused on reaching our new and continuing enrollment targets for Fall 2013. Application numbers are showing improvement with every UAPC (University Admissions Processing Center) phase. As of May 1st, application activity for freshmen is level; however, those students admitted to QCC are down approximately 10%. Transfer application activity is lagging by approximately 5%. In an effort to increase application activity, the Admissions Office began accepting “direct admit” applications effective Friday, April 26th.

Advisement/Registration Updates

- Academic Advisement for continuing students is well underway. As of May 1st, approximately 10,000 continuing students have already been advised with a goal of advising all continuing students by May 31st. Please encourage those students required to meet with an academic advisor to do so as soon as possible.
- As of May 1st, 3,601 continuing students *registered* for the Fall semester vs. 4,318 who had registered for the fall semester around this time last year. It is important to note however, that Fall ‘13 registration began 2 weeks later than last year. Registration for new students began yesterday, May 13th with a goal of advising and registering all new freshmen and transfer students by August 1, 2013. In preparation for new student advisement sessions, Dr. Corradetti hosted numerous Pathways training sessions focusing upon the common core, the revised curricula, and Degree Works.
- Summer 2013 registration is level with that of Summer 2012. Please remind our students to avail themselves of our summer course offerings. The summer session is an ideal time for students to advance their completion of graduation requirements.

Academies Update

Initially structured in Fall 2009 as the Freshman Academies for first time full time freshmen, outcomes of a three year assessment of this model has led the College to scale up the Academies in Fall 2013 to serve ALL full time degree students. With the goal of increasing student retention and degree completion, the Academies offer degree students a cohort

experience centered on their fields of study. Through early outreach, intrusive advisement, and coordinated academic and student support services, representing a partnership between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, the Academies' environment nurtures the growth of the individual student, and fosters a commitment to learning, as well as a sense of community.

Students will be affiliated with one of five Academies based on their chosen program of study:

Business; Health Related Sciences; Liberal Arts (including Education and Criminal Justice); Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics; Visual and Performing Arts.

The Academies experience includes: Intrusive Advisement, High Impact Activities, Instructional Support Services, Student Support Services, and the use of technology tools for enhanced communications, self-service, and interventions for students identified as at risk. Intrusive Advisement will be led by Freshman Coordinators and Primary Advisors organized in a caseload model. Students affiliated with ASAP, College Discovery, International Student Services, Services for Students with Disabilities, CSTEP, and Veterans Services will be served by a primary advisor in these programs. **Faculty Coordinators**, affiliated with "The Academies" will serve as liaisons to academic department chairpersons and to our Center for Teaching and Learning in support of faculty development and academy-based activities.

The success of our faculty led High Impact practices as demonstrated by data indicating increased student retention and performance, has led to the expansion of these pedagogical strategies to promote active student learning as designed and applied by faculty. As of Fall 2013, our High Impact practices will include:

- **Academic Service-Learning**

Service-learning combines community service with classroom instruction, focusing on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility. Service-learning programs involve students in activities that address local needs while developing their academic skills and commitment to their community. (AACC)

- **Common Intellectual Experience (the Common Read)**

The Common Read is a Common Intellectual Experience that promotes integrative learning across the curriculum. This is accomplished through voluntary participation of faculty, both on campus and in local high schools, who introduce the text to their students and support the reading with co-curricular events. The events provide an opportunity for increased social and academic engagement while enhancing student learning outside of the classroom. "These programs often combine broad themes—e.g., technology and society, global interdependence—with a variety of curricular and co-curricular options for students." (George Kuh)

- **Learning Communities**

Two courses taught by two professors and linked by a theme assist students in seeing connections between disciplines, enhancing faculty and student engagement. Learning communities aim "to involve students with 'big questions' that matter beyond the classroom." (George Kuh)

- ***Collaborative Assignments & Projects (SWIG)***
The Student Wiki Interdisciplinary Group Project partners English, and Basic Educational Skills courses with an additional content course. The project creates a shared student centered space through the technology of an academic web platform which allows students to electronically archive and share their written, visual, aural compositions and research in a multi-media format with others. This cornerstone/virtual learning community experience assists students in meeting general educational objectives such as developing effective reading, writing, and speaking skills, as well as honing critical thinking while they are making connections across disciplines as well as in a social/academic network. The sense of belonging to the academic community is enhanced through the meaning-making process.
- ***Undergraduate Research***
Undergraduate research is becoming increasingly important in modern science education. “The goal is to involve students with actively contested questions, empirical observation, cutting-edge technologies, and the sense of excitement that comes from working to answer important questions.” (George Kuh) Working with Queensborough faculty, students have the opportunity to participate in current research projects in all of the sciences, through research courses and through grant-funded undergraduate research programs, some of which provide summer stipends and opportunities for independent research. Participants work on research projects, attend seminars, and are encouraged to present and/or publish their results.
- ***Writing Intensive Courses***
Specifically designated course sections that—in addition to providing the established disciplinary-oriented student outcomes—incorporate approved instructional strategies and course assignments designed to enhance students’ writing ability and writing to learn. “Students are encouraged to produce and revise various forms of writing for different audiences in different disciplines.” (Kuh)
- ***Diversity/Global Learning***
Queensborough’s cultural resources provide opportunities for students to interact with the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives and the QCC Art Gallery on cross-disciplinary projects. The College sponsors student participation in a study abroad seminar in Salzburg, Austria each year.

Faculty/Staff

- Congratulations to Professor Alex Tarasko (Nursing Department) who was invited to attend the White House Forum on Military Credentialing and Licensing, on April 29. The Forum provided an opportunity for key stakeholders from around the country, to share ideas on how to streamline credentialing and licensing opportunities for U. S. service members, veterans, and their spouses. Professor Tarasko, Dr. Carol Soto and Professor Georgina Collalilo are working with Kevin Stevens, QCC Coordinator of Veterans Services, on a Bridge Program for Veteran Medics who wish to pursue their nursing degree. This is a pilot

program, sponsored by University Dean Bill Ebenstein, which CUNY hopes to implement throughout the University.

- Congratulations to Dr. Paris Svoronos, Department of Chemistry, on his invitation to serve as a first round judge for the 2013 Carnegie/CASE U.S. Professors of the Year awards. Each year, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) honors faculty as outstanding professors in several categories, including community colleges, senior colleges, and graduate schools. This national award recognizes significant contributions by faculty as leaders in their sectors to advance teaching and student learning, in the classroom and as mentors. Dr. Svoronos is a past recipient of this award, honored in Washington D. C. as the U.S. Outstanding Community College Professor in 2003.
- The 11th annual CUNY/Daily News Citizenship Now! hotline was held the week of April 22—26. The effort coordinates community, educational, and volunteer initiatives to help expand opportunities for New York City's immigrant population. Queensborough volunteers on the hotline for citizenship information included Lampeto (Bette) Efthymiou and Jeffrey Ballerini, both from QCC's Center for International Affairs, Immigration and Study Abroad, and Lucy Shi and Miguel Quiroz from the accounting office. Over 100,000 immigrants have been assisted since the program was launched in 2002.
- As part of a CUNY-wide effort, a team of faculty and staff, led by Ms. Mavis Hall, our Chief Diversity Officer has developed a QCC Faculty Diversity Plan to strategically support the recruitment and retention of faculty from underrepresented groups. Our thanks to Ms. Hall and our team, Dr. Kimberly Banks, English Department, Dr. Brian Kerr, Academic Affairs, Professor Robert Kueper, Engineering Technology Department, Dean Liza Larios, Human Resources and Labor Relations, Dr. Joanne Chang, Music Department, Dr. Wilma Fletcher-Anthony, Counseling, Dr. Meg Tarafdar, CETL, Dr. Amy Traver, Social Sciences Department, and Dr. Julani Warsi, Department of Academic Literacy.
- The Holocaust Museum and Education Center of Southwest Florida in Naples will exhibit the QCC KHRCA's *Sosua, The Dominican Republic: A Refuge from the Holocaust in the Tropics* exhibit this June through July. This illustrates the growing influence of the work developed in our Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives, under the direction of Executive Director, Dr. Arthur Flug.

Student Honors/Achievements: At this time of year, it is always wonderful to highlight the impressive accomplishments of our students.

- Welcome to our New **Student Government Association** Board. I am delighted to introduce the 2013-14 SGA Board Members: Mr. Stephen Jones (President), Ms. Lida Ramos Arce (Executive Vice President), Ms. Ngawang Yangki (Administrative Vice President), Ms. Latiffa Facey (Programming Vice President), Mr. Chaojun (Ross) Dong (Treasurer), Ms. Linsy Benjamin (Vice President for Evening Students), Ms. Jolie Kauffman (Vice President for Part-Time Students), Mr. Robert Williams (Student Senator). We all look forward to working with the new board in the upcoming academic year. Congratulations!

- **Phi Theta Kappa:** On Wednesday evening, May 1, the Lambda Sigma chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony. This year, 164 students were inducted which is quite impressive considering only 23 students were inducted into the chapter in 2001. Special thanks to our Phi Theta Kappa faculty advisors Dr. Tai and Dr. Svoronos for all their efforts in working with this special group of students.
- Congratulations to Ms. Gaitrie (Ruby) Singh who was chosen as the CUNY Community College top prize winner of the **2013 David A. Garfinkel Essay Contest**. Six other QCC students were given an honorable mention, including Husni Abdelqader, Kristi Diaz, Beatrice LaViscount, Sara Sahibzada, Jeinson Espinosa, and Farah Naz. The contest is open to students from community colleges across New York State, with awards given for essays submitted on topics related to New York legal history. The competition draws students with a wide range of interests in law, history, social science and general research writing. A special thank you to Professors Christine Mooney, Adam Luedtke, and Stephen Hammel for mentoring our student participants and for representing QCC, along with Dr. Jonas Falik, at the May 1st awards ceremony in Albany. The event was held in the chamber of the Court of Appeals, with numerous members of the judiciary in attendance, including Jonathan Lippman, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, and Eric Schneiderman, the Attorney General. Dr. Jonas Falik reported it was wonderful to hear Ms. Singh's name called, and to see her awarded the scholarship in front of her parents and the prestigious group of NYS judicial leaders.
- **Study Abroad Awards:** Expanding our initiative for study abroad opportunities for our students, 7 QCC students were awarded \$1000--\$3000 through the Benjamin A. Gillman Scholarship Program to participate in a faculty led Study Abroad Program in Nevers, France for Summer 2013. Congratulations and "bon voyage" to Laura Acosta, Catherine Rodriguez, Jessica Colon, Olivia Roach, John Calixte, Monica Garduno, and Joseph Salcedo—and many thanks to Dr. Federico Goldoni, Department of Foreign Languages for her work on this project as mentor and group leader. The program is sponsored by U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the Institute of International Education (IIE).
- This year, the QCC recipients of the **CUNY Student Leadership Awards** are Mr. Jace Dunn and Jemima Matiminu. They were recognized at the Excellence in Leadership award ceremony on May 10th at BMCC.
- QCC Mechanical Technology students were awarded 1st Prize by the New York State Society of Professional Engineers in the category of Mechanical Engineering Technology for their Fuel Cell Go-Cart Project. Congratulations to Giancarlos Llanos, Rony Vargas, Jose Devares, Anthony Soehngen, Sunheung Hwang, Christopher Reese, Yan Xu, Mark Perez, Yao Agoudaui, Denis Milichnikov, Issac Morocho, Ryan Naraine, and their faculty mentor and leader, Dr. Kee Park, Department of Engineering Technology.

- **The New York State Engineering Technology Association** selected Michael Lawrence, a New Media Technology Student, as its 2013 Scholarship Winner. Michael was selected for this \$500 award for his talent and leadership in the areas of Campus Service, Student Activities and Outstanding Scholarship in the technology field.
- Congratulations to the QCC Men's Baseball Team which defeated Bronx CC by a score of 24-14 and were declared the 2013 CUNY Champions. The Tigers overcame an eight run deficit to capture back to back CUNY championships (2012 & 2013).
- You can help choose the official Queensborough Community College recycling poster! Last fall, students in Professor Yisun Rho's Advertising Design and Layout class crafted a series of posters that focuses on recycling. The posters were a popular exhibit at this spring's QCC Earth Day celebration. The student designers are Linn Htet Aung, Sandra Carranza, Monica Leon, Alivia Medina, Andrew Noh, Jelisa Parkin, Jimmy Wong and Jieun Yoon. One image will be chosen as the official recycling poster of Queensborough Community College. Our campus community and our students will have the opportunity to review each poster and vote for a favorite and second-favorite poster using Monkey Survey through May 27. The winner will be announced during Commencement week.

CUNY 20/20

- As reported at the last meeting, the State has funded \$55 million for a new initiative called CUNY 20/20. This funding will be for capital expenditures only and not for operating expenses. CUNY envisions funding just a few proposals in the \$5-10 million range, and has encouraged campuses to work on proposals collaboratively with other campuses, as well as with private and public entities. The program is designed to fund proposals that are transformative and innovative, with a focus on job creation and minority and women business participation. We have begun discussions with potential partners and have solicited members of the campus community for ideas that comport with the grant requirements. The official request for proposals is scheduled to be released by the University later this month. CUNY will initially be requesting one-page proposals, due sometime this summer. CUNY will then select a number of proposals for further development. The selection of proposals to be funded will be made by a committee comprised of representatives from CUNY and the Governor's Office. If the program is successful, another \$55 million will be allocated in FY 15.

Institutional Advancement and Philanthropy

- Our Partners for Progress Gala was a tremendous success, upholding our reputation for having "the best party in Queens" - while raising a record amount of dollars ---over \$450,000, with more contributions coming in!! A record attendance of 433 guests enjoyed a wonderful evening of food, music, dancing, and good company --all in celebration of QCC, its honorees -- and, most of all, our students--several of whom emceed the event and introduced our Honorees. We are very proud of them! Thanks to all of you who supported

our efforts to raise funds for student scholarships and our cultural resources on campus, the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives, the QCC Art Gallery and QPAC.

- Our annual Walk to Aspire campaign has just concluded with 21 teams of over 450 faculty, staff and students leading this effort to raise funds for student scholarships. With their help, over \$25,000 was raised this year!! Congratulations and thank you to the team members, leaders, and to the many supporters who contributed over these last several months. In addition to the formal “Walk”, our teams raised money through raffles, bake sales, and solicitations. The top four WALK TO ASPIRE TEAMS and their leaders were Disability Awareness (Ben-Ami Freier) Business, Finance & Administration (Angela Sideris), Student Government (Preston Baker), and the Alumni Team (Emil Parrinello)

Upcoming Events

- **New Faculty Reunion:** Faculty hired in Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 will gather on Wednesday, May 22 with the President, Vice President Steele and OAA Deans to reflect on their first year experiences at QCC, and offer advice on our 2013-14 orientation program for new colleagues.
- QCC’s **Honors Convocation** will take place on Tuesday, May 28, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the QCC Theatre. This annual event is in celebration of the academic achievements of QCC’s most academically distinguished students. Departmental award recipients as well as members of the different honor societies will be recognized.
- **“Candle Lighting”**, our annual, and very special ceremony for graduates of our Nursing degree program will be held on Thursday, May 23 at 1:00 PM in our Humanities Theatre.
- Our 52nd Commencement Exercises will be held on Friday, May 31st. All faculty and staff are welcome to join this very special ceremony for our graduating students and their families and friends.