



**Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate**

November 12, 2013

Enrollment Update

Enrollment activities for Spring 2014 are well underway. Based on the preliminary phases for Spring 2014, we expect to meet our enrollment target. In addition to the CUNY allocations/phases, the Direct Admission option began on November 4th, and the Office of Admissions reports steady traffic.

Advisement and registration for continuing students began on October 17th. Academy advisors have been engaged in a robust outreach campaign to our students with the goal of completing registration for Spring 2014 before the end of this semester. Please encourage your students to register as soon as possible for the Spring 2014 term—and for winter session, which is an opportunity for students to accelerate or get back on track for timely graduation.

The Office of Admissions hosted its annual Fall Open House for prospective students and their families on Saturday, November 9th. This event showcased our beautiful campus, the Queensborough Academies, our great academic programs, and the outstanding faculty of Queensborough.

Faculty and Staff News

Mary Mirabito has joined us as our Grants Director. Formerly the Associate Vice President for Sponsored Programs and Research and Grants Officer at Nassau Community College, she comes to us with a documented track record for obtaining grant funding for programs and projects at community colleges from both government and private foundation sources. She has also served as the Principal Investigator on federally funded institutional grants. In addition to her work with faculty and staff on grants, Mary will be our campus coordinator of the Fulbright Scholar Program, promoting opportunities available to our faculty and administrators.

Leslie Orlovsky has joined us as the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations. Leslie has had extensive fundraising experience and has a solid network of fundraising contacts within the Queens business and corporate community. Her past experience includes being the Senior Director of the American Cancer Society's income department team and Campaign Manager for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Opportunities for Faculty

Tenured faculty are encouraged to consider applying for the *QCC Award for Excellence in Faculty Scholarship*, which recognizes “a sustained and distinguished record of scholarship or creative performance, evidenced by publications, professional presentations, and/or creative works.” The selection process begins with nominations from the academic departments or directly from faculty members who wish to nominate themselves. For each nominee, the department or the individual will forward to the selection committee a one-page statement, a current curriculum vita, copies of publications, and evidence of professional presentations and creative works. The selection committee consists of three academic department chairs elected by all the department chairs, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs who will preside without a vote. The selection committee will evaluate the nominees’ applications according to the criteria that have been used in the previous rounds of the QCC Faculty Excellence Awards, that is, a sustained and distinguished record of scholarship and/or creative achievement as evident in the supporting documentation. Please submit your nominations via the application form (sent to all faculty from Vice President Steele), along with supporting materials by Friday, December 13, 2013, to the Office of Academic Affairs.

The New Faculty Institute: Offered in January, the New Faculty Institute is a four-day informational session and workshop that is intended to support new faculty participation in campus initiatives such as high impact practices and assessment of student learning and to encourage and support use of instructional technologies in the classroom; in addition, governance and committee participation and opportunities for research, publishing, and grant writing will be covered.

The Faculty Mentoring Program: The faculty mentoring program supports department-designated mentors for new faculty members. Mentors meet to discuss useful strategies to guide their mentees in adjusting to their new environment. Mentors assist their colleague mentees in navigating the complexities of campus issues and in learning about service commitments, grant opportunities, professional development, and scholarly growth.

Student Achievements and Honors

Queensborough students were the only community college students to participate in the prestigious Northeast Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society held at Yale University on October 26, presenting 35 poster presentations out of a total of 127 - the highest number of any other college or university. This successful effort involved the support and mentorship of Drs. Nidhi Gadura; Andrew Nguyen; Mangala Tawde; Monica Trujillo; Naydu Carmona; Susan McLaughlin; and Areti Tsiola from the Department of Biology—Drs. David Sarno; Derek Bruzewicz; Sasan Karimi; Jun Shin; Julie Pigza; and Paris Svoronos from the Department of Chemistry, Dr. Kee Park from the Department of Engineering Technology; and Dr. Dimitrios Kokkinos from the Department of Physics.

On the same date, five students won awards for their poster presentations at the Metropolitan Association of College and University Biologists. Students Lucia Nunez and Christian Rivoira are participants in the Bridges/RIMS Program which aims to prepare underrepresented minority students to pursue careers in science/biomedicine by involving them in hands-on research projects. To date, over 160 QCC students have conducted research under the supervision of Bridges mentors. Additional MACUB student winners are Jia Cheong, Kimberly Delon and Rawnok Rayeka.

Congratulations to our students and to their mentors, Drs. Golebiewska and Trujillo from the Department of Biological Sciences and Geology as well as professors from York College and Queens College.

Unique Opportunities for Students

QCC Emerging Leaders Program was launched in September 2013, to support the development of current and future student leaders through basic leadership knowledge and skills training, and projects in support of college and community service. Currently, 15 students have been selected to participate in this program. Please consider referring students who can benefit from this invaluable experience to Ms. Gisela Rivera, Director of Student Leadership & Development at GRivera@qcc.cuny.edu.

Salzburg Global Seminar

The application deadline for the Salzburg 2014 Global Seminar (April 12th – 19th) is quickly approaching! The application deadline is November 14, 2013. The purpose of the program is to provide our students with an intensive international experience, exploring issues of global concern and viewing these issues from a different perspective. This seminar is open to all full-time QCC students who have demonstrated academic success, regardless of their financial need! Again, please remind our students to consider applying for this seminar.

Phi Theta Kappa

Matriculated students with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and 15 credits accumulated are still eligible to join the Lambda Sigma Chapter of the Phi theta Kappa International Honor Society. Applications can be downloaded from the College's website at www.qcc.cuny.edu/ptk or picked up in the Library Building, Room 412. The deadline for students to join for the Fall 2013 semester is Monday, December 23rd.

QCC's Strategic Plan for 2014-15

Work has begun to craft our strategic plan, with a meeting of governance leaders with Vice President Steele and Dean Arthur Corradetti. The College Advisory Planning Committee (faculty governance leaders, administrators and student leaders) has been convened to develop a comprehensive draft of the strategic plan for 2014-15m which will inform our resource allocation process. Beginning in February, as is customary, focus groups will be held with the academic department chairpersons, HEOs, and Student Government to review and discuss the draft. Following further revision based on the suggestions and comments, as well as open hearings with the campus community, the CAPC will meet in the spring semester to review and discuss the feedback and changes from the focus groups and open hearings. The final version of our QCC Strategic Plan is due to the University in late June.

Update on the Early College High School Initiative

Dean Denise Ward, Dr. Belle Birchfield (ET), and Professor Leslie Francis (Business) attended the New York State P-TECH Leadership Council in Albany on November 4. The convening brought together DoE and college faculty and administrators representing the 16 proposed ECI initiatives across the state. The objectives of the meeting were to establish a statewide learning community of all partnerships; to clarify NYS P-TECH Design Principles, identify opportunities for innovation and gather input and guidance for ongoing professional development for teachers.

QCC representatives met the Principal of the new high school, Hoa Tu. This was an opportunity to better understand the structure of the entire initiative, and to interact with other launched schools, discuss curriculum and how the governance process was handled between high school and colleges. As of this date (prior to reports from our representatives), we do know that our courses will serve dual credit - high school and college (based on the approval of our faculty). It is believed the first steps will be to determine the skills required by SAP and then determine either existing degree programs or those that our faculty can modify easily and quickly to support the learning, and then curriculum details will be designed by faculty from the sponsoring departments, as well as representatives from others disciplines.

Science Building Courtyard Enclosure Project Update

We are excited to announce that the groundbreaking for the new Science Building and Courtyard Enclosure will begin this month. This is a long planned and awaited project resulting in a major facility enhancement which will provide a new transparent roof over the existing courtyard and renovate the courtyard space. It will enrich student and campus life by creating an improved dining space and a venue for College functions. The project is the first part of a two-phase project. The first phase includes a roof over the courtyard and prepares it to become a multi-use interior space. Also included will be improvements to the science lobby and restrooms and a second elevator will be added to improve access to all floors of the Science Building. In the second construction phase, the courtyard area will become a fully enclosed dining space accommodating 400 students and guests, a new kitchen on the basement level of the Science Building, and a renovated server, replacing the current Science cafeteria service area.

During the 16 month construction period every effort will be made to mitigate any inconveniences for our faculty, students and staff, within the constraints a major renovation such as this presents. *While the Courtyard will be closed during this period, all the other areas of the Science Building will be accessible. Also, the current Science cafeteria service area will remain open, as will the downstairs eating room.* Windows facing the courtyard on the second and third floors will be removed and replaced to allow the anchoring of the new courtyard roof structure to the building. A temporary new wall will be built inside the spaces where windows will be removed to assure that the building remains weather-tight. Any necessary materials abatement within the building will take place at night, or on holidays, when the building is unoccupied. The contractor staging area will be in Parking Lot #2 resulting in a temporary loss of student parking. *An ongoing blog of the construction process—coordinated by the Project Team and our office of Communications and Marketing—will be posted on the College website.*

Upcoming Events

SGA Multicultural Festival

The Office of Student Activities and Student Government Association are hosting the Multicultural Festival Wednesday, November 13th at 12:00 p.m. in the Student Union Lounge. The Multicultural Festival is an event celebrating the diversity of our campus community which features a cultural showcase through music, dance, and food. All members of the QCC Community are invited to attend!

RED Day

QCC's Office of Military & Veterans' Services is hosting a "RED Day" event on Thursday, November 14th. On this day, the College community is encouraged to wear patriotic clothing to "Remember Everyone Deployed" (RED). I'd like to give a special thank you to Mr. Kevin Stevens for accompanying several QCC

veteran students to the New York City's Annual Veterans' Day parade yesterday, November 11th and for conducting the campus Remembrance & Reflection Ceremony which was held this morning (November 12th).