

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate

October 11, 2011

Enrollment

Advisement for Winter session and Spring 2012 is underway. Formal registration will begin in mid-October. A second wave of CUNY colleges will launch CUNYFirst in November, which will require a week of system ‘downtime’. Anticipating this, we ask Faculty to encourage their students to work with student services staff on advisement and to register as soon as possible—in advance of the “blackout” period.

The Pathways Project

Work continues on and off campus by our faculty on the University’s Pathways Project. In addition to **Dr. David Lieberman, Dr. Pat Schneider** and **Professor Marge Reilly** who serve on the University Working Group, we have nominated several faculty to serve on the University Majors Committee which will establish the first three to six courses that lead into the largest transfer majors. The Pathways Project has been discussed in various campus venues, including on- going reports to the Academic Senate, and in meetings with the College Advisory Planning Committee, the academic Department Chairpersons, the Student Government Association Board, and the special Academic Senate Committee on General Education. The Pathways project will be the topic of our general Faculty Meeting in October and the FEC Conference of the College in November. For more information about the Pathways project and its progress, please visit the Pathways website: <http://www.cuny.edu/academics/initiatives/degreepathways.html>

Grant Awards and Opportunities

- **Professor Kitty Bateman, Dr. Margot Edlin** and **Ms. Patricia Lannes** received a \$495,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to partner with four museums in the greater NYC metropolitan area as well as adult literacy and CLIP programs across CUNY’s community colleges to help museum educators and community college instructors learn to use Visual Thinking Strategies and capitalize on museum’s artworks (as texts) and cultural capital to increase their English language skills.
- Queensborough, as part of a consortium of eight of CUNY colleges (all six community colleges, NYCCT, and CSI), will share in a multi-year award of \$19,860,087 from the United States Department of Labor for the program “Career PATH”, to build CUNY’s capacity to effectively serve adult learners. Congratulations to **Dean Denise Ward** for her contributions to this program which will provide basic academic and English language skills instruction contextualized to five industry sectors with the goal of engaging adult learners and helping them bypass traditional developmental education. In

her congratulations to the consortium team, EVC Logue noted “this is a transformational grant that will be responsible for huge advances in CUNY's efforts in workforce development and education of underprepared students”.

- Several colleagues received awards from the highly competitive CUNY Collaborative Incentive Research Program: **Dr. Naydu Carmona** (Biological Sciences and Geology), in collaboration with Dr. Luine from Hunter, received a CUNY CIRP grant for \$25,138 for *Multiparous Rats: A Model for Better Aging?* And **Dr. Sharon Lall-Ramnarine** (Chemistry), in collaboration with Dr. Sophia Suarez from Brooklyn College, received a CUNY CIRP grant for *High Pressure NMR Characterization of Binary Ionic Liquids Performance and Degradation for Optimization and Use in Supercapacitors*.
- **Dr. Raji Subramaniam** (Biological Sciences and Geology) has been appointed as our 2011-12 Research Integrity Officer. She will be working with faculty to ensure all students engaged in research (grant funded or not) receive the required certification training on Responsible Conduct for Research. Many thanks to Dr. David Lieberman who served in this role for the past year.
- Congratulations to **Dr. Nidhi Gadura** (Biological Sciences) who was featured in the 2010 Annual Report of the CUNY Research Foundation for her work on *Membrane Lipid Peroxidation as a Mechanism Copper Surface-Mediated Toxicity*.
- Faculty are encouraged to consider applying for a 2012-13 PSC CUNY Collaborative Grant. These grants provide support for intellectual inquiry 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 in particular, associate professors, assistant professors, instructors, and lecturers who are on the regular University payroll. Applications for funding for the 2012-2013 program year will be due January 15, 2012. For more information about how the PSC-CUNY Award Program can support research, publications and creative activities, please contact **Joseph Tomaras** in our Office of Sponsored Programs.

Faculty Excellence Awards

- Established in 2001, the Queensborough Community College Award for Excellence in Faculty Scholarship honors tenured faculty with a record of sustained and distinguished scholarship or creative performance, evidenced by peer reviewed publications of research or creative works which advance their discipline. Faculty are nominated by colleagues at the department level. This year's selection committee, Dr. Linda Reesman, Professor Bob Rogers and Dr. Sasan Karimi (elected by their fellow chairpersons) will solicit nominees this semester and evaluate the body of work presented by them as well as how their scholarly outcomes have been integrated into his or her teaching at Queensborough. The committee will recommend several faculty to the President for induction into this distinguished group of award recipients at a ceremony this spring.

Budget Update

- Our FY 12 Financial Plan has been filed with the University, following consultation with the Executive team, the Budget Subcommittee of the College Personnel and Budget Committee, the Special Committee of the Academic Senate on the Resource Allocation Process, the Executive Board of the Queensborough Student Association, the College Advisory Planning Committee, and the Academic Department Chairs. Our FY 12 Financial Plan reflects the outcome of the CAPC and Resource Planning and Allocation processes initiated last spring. Due to the budget reductions imposed by the State and City, our budget plan for FY 12 included making reductions of approximately 10% to OTPS, Hourly and Non-Teaching Adjunct budgets. The Academic Departments were spared reductions unless warranted due to a decline in enrollment. Our budget plan also included continuing to hold a number of administrative positions vacant to generate salary savings. Until early August, we had feared that our enrollment, which was lagging significantly behind last year, may have necessitated additional reductions. Our enrollment came back strong, however, and enrollment growth plus an increase in tuition have resulted in a stable financial position for FY 12. The Financial Plan does require that we prepare projections for FY 13 and FY 14 and our budget plan for FY 12 will include a reserve reflective of the continuing decline in State and City revenue we project over the next two years. The FY 12 Financial Plan once again includes the requirement that we “self-fund” a portion of our Plan with productivity savings and philanthropic resources.

Upcoming Events

- On exhibit in our Art Gallery until the end of January is *Duality: Stoneware and Bronze*, dynamic sculptures by the Chinese artist Wenzhi Zhang who blends traditional Chinese techniques with contemporary expression. *Duality* is a two-part presentation of the artist’s work displayed inside the Gallery as well as throughout the gardens surrounding the Oakland Building.
- A *Welcome for New Students* and their families will be held Sunday, October 16 at 12 noon. A special reception at 2:00 p.m. is planned for the 31 entering students who are recipients of this year’s Merit Scholarships.
- The Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) will hold a *General Faculty Meeting* on October 26 from 1-3 PM to inform the faculty about the latest developments in the Pathways initiative, including presentations by our faculty involved with the project at the University and campus levels.
- On Thursday, October 27, the Fall Presidential Lecture will be delivered by **Larry Zicklin**. Mr. Zicklin is a graduate of Baruch College and has served on its foundation as President and Chairman. Professionally, Mr. Zicklin was managing principal and chairman of Neuberger Berman, an investment management firm. Mr. Zicklin endowed Baruch’s School of Business, and provided funding to establish Baruch College’s Center for Financial Integrity. In addition to being an adjunct professor at Baruch, he is a Clinical Professor at the Stern School at New York University and a Senior Fellow at the Wharton School.

- On Thursday, November 10, at 2:30 PM in the KHRC, we will commemorate Veterans Day by honoring faculty, staff and students who have served in the military. A Remembrance Grove with a plaque and benches will be dedicated to those men and women who have served in the five branches of our armed forces.
- 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, November 10 at 5:30 pm in the Student Union. This year's Honorees include Ellen Adams, Jules Allen, Judith Barbanel, Pat Hayes, Frances Lee, Michael Moriarty, Robert Nichol, Michael Simonetta, Roz Smernoff, Paris Svoronos, Florence Tse, Ann Tullio, and Allen Warren.
- On Friday, November 11, The Faculty Executive Committee will hold the annual *Conference of the College*. This year's topic will focus on the Pathways Project, with **Michelle Anderson**, Dean of the CUNY Law School and chair of the University Steering Committee for Pathways Project as a featured presenter.
- The Office of Admissions will host its annual *Fall Open House* as part of CUNY month on Sunday, November 13th from 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event showcases our beautiful campus, academic programs and outstanding faculty to prospective students and their families.
- *Walk to Aspire*, our annual campus community fundraising event for scholarships will be held on Wednesday, November 16 from 1 to 3 pm on the athletic track. This year's goal is 30K. Last academic year, over 200K in scholarships averaging \$1000 were awarded to 194 students.