

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate

March 8th, 2005

First, let me welcome Dr. Susan O'Malley, Chair of the University Faculty Senate and CUNY Trustee. I am delighted that she made time from what I am certain is a very busy schedule, to attend one of our Academic Senate meetings.

Budget:: The current budget is somewhat restricted by less-than-anticipated revenue collections. I am confident that the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration will take the necessary steps to minimize the impact of the lower-than-expected enrollment so that services to our students are maintained at current levels. However, it is imperative that we all work diligently to ensure that the summer enrollment is as high as possible.

Next year's budget proposal is being discussed in the State Legislature. The Assembly and the Senate representatives should be contacted (using your own stationary and stamps, your private telephones, or your private e-mail) to inform them of the impact of the proposed reductions in TAP and to request that the base aid for community colleges be restored and increased from \$2,235 to \$2,385 per FTE. As you know, this money is part of our allocation and it is supplemented by the City and by tuition. Therefore, the restoration of base aid has a direct relationship on the burden that is placed on the City and on the student.

We are also interested in ensuring that the Capital Projects for community colleges are addressed. Community colleges have not received funding equivalent to the senior colleges because we are subject to a 50% match by the City. For a long time, the City did not match the State allocations. Now, we finally have a City Council that is willing to match the allocation, so it is important that the State fund the \$206 million requested for Capital projects at community colleges.

Strategic Plan: Now that we have completed the focus meetings with the Chairs, the HEOs and the students and the College Advisory Planning Committee has considered the suggestions made, we are ready for the Open Hearings. These are scheduled for April 15 and April 18.

Please make certain that you attend the Open Hearings. The Strategic Plan charts the direction of the College for the next year. The budget allocations will be made according to the priorities depicted on the plan.

League for Innovation: Congratulations to the 15 groups of presenters at the League Conference that concluded today. Over 2,000 community college educators from the United States and abroad attended the conference. Queensborough Community College truly emerged as a leader in post-secondary two-year education. Our interest in sharing our findings with our colleagues is commendable.

Affirmative Action Officer Search: **Unfortunately, as of this writing, we do not have a person selected and the search continues. Thank you, Dr. Paul Jean-Pierre, for stepping in as Acting Affirmative Action and Compliance Officer. Also, our gratitude goes to the members of the Affirmative Action Search Committee: Jannette Treue Urciuoli, Chair; Dr. Joann Wein; Dr. Paul Jean-Pierre, Ms. Ada Alvira and Dr. Jay Mullin for their service.**