

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate
September 21, 2010

Enrollment:

- We begin the year with almost 15,000 students enrolled this fall, including over 3300 freshmen, and I especially thank the Enrollment Management team and their staff for their efforts over these last months.
- Throughout the summer, new students were invited in small groups for advisement, registration and an orientation to the College and its services as well as a campus tour. Just before classes began, over 2000 freshmen returned for the second part of their orientation program---*Freshmen First*—which brought them together by Academy with their faculty and freshmen coordinators.
- Under CUNY's Enrollment Management Plan for all colleges, early admission dates have been established. The deadline to apply to QCC for Spring 2011 as a degree student was September 15th. The admissions deadlines and enrollment caps have led to early outreach, testing, financial aid application assistance, academic advisement and registration of these applicants.

Personnel:

- Dr. Karen Steele is our Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Sherri Newcomb has been recommended to serve as Vice President for Finance and Administration. Our Affirmative Action Officer, Harry Payne, is now with the University, and a search has begun for his replacement. In the interim, Brian Kerr will work with departments on searches, charging the search committees, and certifying applicant/interview pools. He will convene the AA Committee, and its members will implement the program plan developed by that group. Dr. Paul Jean Pierre will conduct investigations based on requests received from faculty, staff or students.
- An Early Retirement Incentive has been offered to faculty and staff. The open period for faculty to apply for the Early Retirement Incentive starts on December 29 with the retirement date being January 27, 2011. The Health Benefit provision (outside of QCC) can take several weeks to process especially with the official open period being so condensed. Faculty who are considering taking the ERI are invited to make an appointment with Ysabel Macea for assistance with the paperwork for activation of retirement health benefits by January 27.

Special Recognition/Awards:

- In August, we received news that QCC has been named by the American Association of Colleges and Universities and the Met Life Foundation as one of twelve community colleges nationwide as a *Leadership Institution* in supporting and advancing community college student success.

- Also, Quincin Gonjon will be honored for Excellence in IT Operations, Support and Service on September 22 at the *New York Center for Digital Government and Government Technology Conference in Albany* for innovations related to our network security and the design of QCC Alert, a campus emergency alert system via college PCs.

Upcoming Special Events:

- Our *Celebration of Service to Queensborough*, honoring 20, 30 and 40 years of service by faculty and staff will be held Thursday, October 21, beginning at 5:30 in the Student Union.
- On Wednesday, October 6, recipients of last springs' Pedagogical Research Challenge Grants will present the results of their research projects from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM in M 136.
- The Fall 2010 Faculty Meeting is on Wednesday, October 20 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM in MA 136, with a panel presentation on Criteria for Re-appointment, Tenure and Promotion.
- The third annual *Walk to Aspire* will be on Wednesday, November 17 at 1:00 PM on the athletic track. Please join, sponsor, and cheer on the teams of faculty, student and staff participants. Funds raised support student scholarships.

Budget Update:

- The New York legislature did not pass the fiscal year 2011 budget until last month—more than 4 months late. While the earlier actions of both the Assembly and the Senate sought to restore the proposed \$20 million reduction to the CUNY community colleges, these efforts were vetoed by the Governor. This \$20 million reduction was in addition to a \$14 million reduction (City and State) implemented last year. In addition, the State budget allocation did not recognize the 2% tuition increase authorized by the CUNY Board of Trustees. There was no tuition increase implemented this semester. The collective result of these actions is a far worse budget than we expected in FY 11, although not worse than we had planned for. To illustrate the magnitude of the reduction, the CUNY Community College Allocation Model is funded at only 90% this year, vs. 99% last year. Fiscal year 12 is expected to be much worse than this year and so, even though our FY 11 budget is balanced, we must use our resources in a way that will prepare us for what is to come. Each Vice President will be working with their Directors and Department Chairs to evaluate FY 11 expenditures in relation to the severe budget reductions we anticipate in FY 12, and save funds wherever possible. We will also begin our annual Resource Planning and Allocation process this fall, rather than in the spring.

Despite these storm clouds and fiscal challenges, we will collaborate with faculty and staff through shared governance to achieve these primary objectives for the coming year:

- Examine our PMP results for 2009-10 and collaborate with chairpersons, faculty, staff and students to address the findings and adjust strategies for improved student learning outcomes. The results of this University report indicate our strengths are student satisfaction with instructional support services, student services, and access to technology. Our challenges were noted as need to improve student exit from

remediation in reading, writing and math; improve student progress (credit completion) and graduation rates, and reduce performance gaps in credit completion and graduation for students from underrepresented groups and by gender.

- Collaborate with faculty, staff and administrators for **Continuous improvement/institutional effectiveness based on assessment outcomes.**
- Evaluate data from the Freshman Academy Assessment Protocol to identify factors which suggest a positive influence on/or barrier to student success –especially the high impact activities and support services---and refine/adjust the approaches/tools/strategies for improvement in student learning outcomes.
- Continue the strategic planning process centered on our mission statement and addressing areas of concern identified in the 2009-10 PMP findings
- Review developmental education and develop specific strategies to address issues based on the outcomes of CUNY PMP indicators for 2009.
- Expand Faculty development opportunities for engagement in the high impact activities, e learning, assessment, and continue support for faculty research in pedagogy, and dissemination of findings.