

**Queensborough Community College**  
of The City University of New York

***Report of the President***  
to the  
**Academic Senate**  
**February 2013**

- Following approval of a number of courses by the Academic Senate at its November 2013 meeting, and in consultation with the Academic Senate Steering Committee and the Faculty Executive Committee, the College will forward to the University those courses approved. It was recommended by governance leaders that some courses be submitted for inclusion in the Chancellor's Report with a notation they were approved by governance, but would not be offered---as this approach would uphold the vote of the Academic Senate and preserve the College's option to decline implementation. Also, at the request of the Chairperson of the English Department, on behalf of his faculty, the College has forwarded English Composition courses approved at the November 2013 Academic Senate to the CUNY English CCRC for inclusion in the Pathways Common Core, 1A.
- Compared to last year, enrollment is down for the Fall semester and also this Spring term. While the decline in Fall 12 enrollment was by design, as required by the University, enrollments in Summer 12, Winter 13 and Spring 13 were not as high as anticipated. This will impact the budget, both this year and next year. In the current year, tuition and fee revenues will be down substantially. This year's financial plan did include a conservative contingency, and we believe the contingency will be adequate to cover the shortfall in revenues. The CUNY Community College Budget Model is driven largely by enrollment—full-time equivalent student (FTES) enrollment. Our Enrollment Management Committee is already working on an aggressive plan to increase our FY 14 enrollment (summer, fall, winter session 2014 and spring 2014 to improve our FY 14 budget through revenue. Current enrollment information will be used to develop budget projections for FY 14, and these projections will inform our annual Resource Planning & Allocation Process for FY 14, which will be launched by Vice President Newcomb in the next month.
- Spring 2013 registration for those students enrolled in degree programs is approximately 14,300 versus 14,600 for Spring 2012. To achieve higher spring 13 enrollment, we recruited a larger number of new freshmen and transfer students. Our fall to spring retention rate for continuing students was 76%. In addition, the CUNYstart program registered a new cohort of 100 new students for the Spring 2013 semester. This immersion program has led to very positive outcomes--of the fifty Fall 2012 CUNYstart participants 96% are enrolled in degree programs for the Spring 2013 term!
- Last semester the College scaled up the Early Alert system, using the E roster system many faculty members use to create attendance sheets for their classes. There were multiple

opportunities for faculty to send alert messages. As a result of faculty participation in this initiative, over 5,000 students were flagged in the system and contacted by advisors through emails, phone calls or letters. For those of you not yet familiar with Early Alert, the goal of this system is to reach students who need attention early enough in the semester that they can take corrective action and improve their academic performance. This system enables you to flag students that have not been attending or doing well in your classes so that advisors can intervene on your behalf. Using this system will save you the time and effort you would normally spend trying to contact students yourselves. You may also write instructions in the comments section if you want the advisors to have the students “see instructor” or “go to tutoring”. If you have any questions about the Early Alert system, you may contact Dean Paul Marchese, at [pmarchese.qcc.cuny.edu](mailto:pmarchese.qcc.cuny.edu), or Dr. Margot Edlin, Faculty Fellow in the Office of Academic Affairs, at [medlin@qcc.cuny.edu](mailto:medlin@qcc.cuny.edu)

### **Student Awards, Honors and Announcements**

- In January, nine QCC student interns in the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center *Asian Social Justice Internship Project* participated in what may be termed an historic event. They became the first US college students to interview Korean Comfort Women survivors of WWII. In cooperation with the Korean American Civic Empowerment (KACE), a live video connection was arranged with the House of Sharing in Seoul, Korea. The House of Sharing is a facility established for these victims that provides social interaction and support services. The interns spent the fall semester with Dr. Jimin Kim, a specialist in Korean history and culture, gaining an understanding of the events and individuals surrounding the events of WWII in Asia. The project facilitated interviews between the survivors, now women in their early 90's and our student interns who also posed questions to them through translators. The interns described their experiences and insights gained to an audience of community members and NYS and NYC legislators gathered in our KHRCA. The interns accepted a responsibility to give voice to the victims in their quest for justice.
- The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives is seeking 12 students to participate in the *Asian Social Justice Internship* project during the spring 2013 semester. Students selected to participate in this project will meet weekly for one hour at the KHRCA Holocaust Center to examine and discuss the impact World War II had on those residents living in Asia, with a focus on the Korean Comfort Women. This will be done through readings, videos, group discussions, and presentations by local residents living in Asia at that time. Student interns will be trained to use this knowledge to conduct an intensive interview of local survivors and present his/her story to the other interns as well as interested members of the Queensborough Community College community. There is a stipend of \$360 for successfully completing this project. Interested students should send their resume, letter of interest, and copy of their schedule for the current semester to Dr. Arthur Flug, Executive Director at [AFlug@qcc.cuny.edu](mailto:AFlug@qcc.cuny.edu). All three items must be received in order for your application to be considered. For further information, please contact Dr. Arthur Flug at: 718-281-5770. *The deadline for submitting the application is Friday, February 22, 2013.*

- The University Student Senate has announced the 2012-2013 USS Scholarship Competition winners. Of the 25 Ernesto Malave Merit Scholarships and Donald & Mary Ellen Passantino Scholarships awarded CUNY-wide, QCC students received five. Congratulations to Corina Hernandez Fernandez, Xiangying Wu, Anastasia Nicole Robinson, Miriam Evelyn Ali-Rodriguez, Stephanie Elizabeth Formosa. These USS Scholarship recipients distinguished themselves through their outstanding scholarship, leadership, and service to their campus communities.
- The Academic Senate Awards and Scholarship committee recently selected 68 students to receive the Spring 2013 Academic Merit Scholarships. These new recipients are in addition to some 70 new and continuing award winners selected for the Fall 2012 semester. I'd like to express a special thank you to the QCC Academic Senate Awards and Scholarship members in choosing these promising and talented students.
- The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs is still accepting applications for the 2013 Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award. For students to be eligible for nomination, they must meet the following criteria: Scholarship - Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, minimum of 30 credits must be completed at the conclusion of the Fall 2012 semester, College Activity - such as participation in Student Government, Clubs, Publications, Athletic Teams, Committees, etc., Community Involvement - Project or program involvement, volunteerism, or community service, and Promise - Demonstrated potential for continued development. The deadline to submit nominations to the Office of Student Affairs is Thursday, February 28th.
- Faculty and staff are asked to remind students about valuable and free financial services through the *Single Stop Program*. Free legal assistance, financial coaching, and benefit screening are just some of the services provided by the office. Also, free Tax Preparation services are available to all enrolled students from now through April 15, 2013. The Single Stop office is in the Library Building, room 432a.
- Sixteen QCC students have been chosen to attend this year's Salzburg Global Seminar Study Abroad trip in Salzburg, Austria. And a special thank you to Dr. Barbara Blake-Campbell (Dept. of Nursing) and Dr. Federica Goldoni (Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literature) for agreeing to accompany our students on this trip, scheduled for March 24th – March 31st, 2013.
- The Office of Career Services will be hosting "*Etiquette in Action: A Business Dining Experience*" event for QCC students on Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. in the Oakland Dining Room. Please encourage our students to sign up for this worthwhile event by visiting the Office of Career Services located in the Library Building, Room 429. Seating is limited to 50 students.
- QCC's Lambda Sigma Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society has increased its membership by 25% during the past year, earning the College five Pinnacle

Award Member Scholarships. A special thank you to Dr. Paris Svoronos and Dr. Emily Tai for their tireless work with the honor society.

## Faculty and Staff Announcements

- The Office of Academic Affairs is pleased to invite QCC faculty (full time and adjuncts) to apply for the *2013-2014 Online Course Development Initiative*. The application deadline is Monday March 4, 2013. Selected faculty will be expected to attend the Summer Institute during June 2013, complete final preparations for online course delivery during Fall 2013, and teach the course online at least two semesters, Spring 2014 and Fall 2014. This faculty development initiative is emphasizing partly online (blended) courses, but faculty members who wish to develop fully online (asynchronous) courses may also apply. Applications were emailed to all faculty from Vice President Steele, and further information is available from the Office of Academic Affairs.
- Faculty Diversity Strategic Plan  
This spring, a panel of faculty and HEO staff will partner with Ms. Mavis Hall, our Chief Diversity Officer to develop a strategic plan to recruit and retain a diverse faculty. This effort is part of a CUNY initiative to promote and support campus efforts for diversity among the faculty. QCC Faculty who have received CUNY Diversity grants and participated in QCC's Inclusive Excellence initiatives have been invited to serve on the panel. Members will contribute to the development of a framework of strategies and suggested activities to address challenges posed with respect to faculty recruitment, retention, and campus climate.
- The Winter 2013 edition of: *Diversity and Democracy*, a publication of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, highlights transformative partnerships at home and abroad. The monograph features "Strengthening Immigrant Voices: Museum-Community College Partnerships" describing CALTA21: *Cultures and Literacies Through Art for the 21st Century*, a project led by Dr. Margot Edlin, Ms. Patricia Lannes, and Professor Kitty Bateman. The project, launched with a QCC Pedagogical Research Challenge Grant has drawn the interest and financial support of national organizations such as AAC&U in support of its aims to build the capacity of museum/community college partnerships to empower adult English language learners. Its goal is to increase their comfort with institutions of higher education, community-based organizations, and cultural institutions while strengthening literacy and critical thinking skills.
- Community College Collaborative Incentive Research Grants Program  
The Community College Collaborative Incentive Research Grants (C3IRG) Program supports the collaborative research efforts of faculty at CUNY Community Colleges. The primary programmatic goal is to seed research that will form the basis for externally funded grant proposals. The review committee is comprised of CUNY college senior faculty, and is chaired by the Associate University Dean for Research. The C3IRG program supports and funds projects focusing on pedagogical research, although proposals from all disciplines are welcome. The program will fund one-year grants (September 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) with

awards up to a maximum of \$15,000. Applications must be uploaded and submitted to the system by 5PM on Friday, April 5, 2013. Faculty interested in pursuing this opportunity, should contact our Office of Sponsored Programs for additional information regarding eligibility and proposal preparation.

- We are delighted to welcome QCC's new Enrollment Director, Ms. Laura Bruno, to the Office of Admissions and Enrollment. Laura is an experienced enrollment professional having served in similar positions at York College (CUNY), Eugene Lang College of the New School and CUNY's Office of Admission Services.

## Events

- Please join our faculty and HEOs at our seventh annual **GRANTS RECOGNITION RECEPTION** to honor those faculty and staff who received or pursued grant funding in 2012-2013 on Thursday, February 21, 2013 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. in the Student Union.
- From February 22 through May 17 the QCC Gallery will host a groundbreaking exhibition: ***Shangaa; Art of Tanzania***. Over 150 Tanzanian cultural objects will be presented as a scholarly collection for the first time in the United States. This art experience is designed to do what Tanzanians call *Shangaa*: to amaze, surprise and event to dumfound and confound several misconceptions about how the public views Tanzanian art and Culture. Mr. Mark Bessire, Director of the Portland Museum of Art (which will receive our exhibit next fall), offers "Audiences will be challenged, engaged and inspired by the great Tanzanian cultural objects in Shangaa. For the first time in the United States, the great artistic traditions of Tanzania are brought together to expand our knowledge of East Africa."

A message from Preston Baker, President of QCC Student Government and the SGA Executive Board (sent to 'Everyone' through Vice President Ellen Hartigan):

*During the past several weeks, many students, faculty and staff have told us how challenging the events experienced during the Fall 2012 semester have been for themselves, their families, our region and our college community. There have been many stories of hardship, hurt, and sadness, of anger and isolation.*

*In acknowledgement of the strength of our college community, QCC's Student Government and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs have launched an important initiative: **Acts of Kindness**. Throughout the day, each of us experiences acts of kindness – holding an elevator door open, waiting patiently for a parking space, sharing notes with a class mate, helping a new student find the right classroom, caring for an elderly or ill relative, offering a seat on the bus, a smile to a busy salesperson, making time to be a friend who listens.*

*Take time to reflect on how easily you might make a difference in someone's day. Small acts might be as powerful as larger ones. Show concern, respect, humor – acts that can become antidotes to frustration and worry.*

*We invite you to join in recognizing and celebrating Acts of Kindness. Let us know of experiences, large and small, that you have experienced. An extra “thank you” to a colleague, a word of appreciation to a teacher or staff member does go a long way.*

*Should you wish to share experiences or ideas with the college community, email the Vice President at [EHartigan@qcc.cuny.edu](mailto:EHartigan@qcc.cuny.edu). You may give your name or not, as you prefer. Tell us if you are a student, staff member, or faculty and let us know if we can share your story.*

*Wishing you a terrific spring semester, and looking forward to sharing Acts of Kindness with you!*

### **In Memoriam**

- With sadness, I note the loss of two colleagues in the last month: Dr. Alan Rauchway was a Professor of Psychology in the Department of Social Sciences. Alan began at the College in 1972, and served with distinction and grace on our faculty, and also as campus coordinator of the CUNY BA Program. Mr. Joe Iorio, a CLT since 1987 in the Department of Chemistry, was known for his skill, kindness, and generosity of spirit. Both will be missed by the campus community and many colleagues and friends outside of QCC. Our thoughts are with their families.