



President's Report
to the
Academic Senate

May 10, 2016

Enrollment Update

The Enrollment Management team activities are fully focused on reaching our new and continuing enrollment targets for Fall 2016. While the University as a whole is showing a modest decline in applications, applications to QCC reflect a modest increase in both Freshmen (+1000 applications) and (+100 applications) Transfer pools. Admissions continues to ramp up recruitment and relationship-building activities in Queens and Nassau County. This Spring, our recruitment team conducted visits to every Nassau County high school, followed by a personalized email to the high school counselor. Enrollment Management is working closely with ASAP, College Discovery, CUNY Start and USIP to coordinate outreach to students with the goal of enrolling them in the best option.

The Office of New Student Engagement is currently conducting outreach to new incoming students via email and phone calls. A calling campaign has begun targeting various populations of applicants including ASAP or CD eligible students. Additionally, during the month of April the office has hosted two 'New Student and Family Welcome Sessions' with a combined attendance of over 300 attendees. Staff and Faculty from Enrollment Management, Admissions, Financial Aid, Bursar, ASAP, CD, Undergraduate Research, The Honors Program, CUNY START and Testing Services provided valuable information during the interactive Welcome Sessions.

Advisement Updates

Advisement for new and continuing students is well underway. Academy Advisers are outreaching to their **continuing** student caseload through Starfish and phone. These efforts have been supplemented with direct mail, tiger mail blasts, and social and digital media campaigns. Please encourage students that are required to meet with an academic adviser to do so as soon as possible. **New** Student Advisement and Registration began on April 12, across all Academies. Registration-ready students are being invited to advisement through Hobsons. Extra appointments were opened up during NYC public school spring break. Early and personalized outreach to newly admitted students is being conducted in coordination with Admissions, New Student Engagement and the Office of Testing. Ongoing training and staff development for all advisers is a department priority. Adviser meetings with Department Chairpersons are scheduled for May 5 and May 19th. If you

would like to update/speak to the advisers, please contact the Director of Academy Advisement, Frantz Alcindor to schedule a convenient time.

New Accreditations

- Queensborough's list of accredited programs has just become one program longer, with more to come. After two years of concerted effort, the Department of Speech Communication and Theatre Arts has been notified that the new A.S. in Theatre has been accredited and granted associate membership in the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). The commission commended the institution "for its effective attention to the matters of degree title" and "guidelines for promotion and tenure," among other areas. The department's next comprehensive review will be conducted in the 2020-21 academic year. Congratulations to the Theatre department on their newly accredited program!
- The Art and Design department is seeking accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). The department's self-study, which was submitted in February, seeks accreditation for the new A.S. in Art, the A.S. in Digital Art and Design, and the A.S. in Gallery and Museum Studies. A site visit by an accreditation team took place on April 17-20; during the visit, the team commended the department for the quality of its self-study. The team report should be completed by early summer, and the NASAD commission will meet in October to decide on the prospective accreditations of all applying institutions.
- Finally, the Dance program, in the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Dance, and the Music department will be completing self-studies of their own in the fall. Dance is seeking accreditation for the new A.S. in Dance from the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD), and Music is seeking accreditation for the new A.S. in Music and the A.A.S. in Music Production from the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). Both departments will have site visits in spring 2017. We look forward to hearing the news that Art and Design, Dance, and Music have joined Theatre in the ranks of accredited programs in the visual and performing arts.

FY 17 Budget Update

QCC's annual Resource Planning & Allocation Process for FY 17 is underway. Each academic department and administrative division was provided with historical information and templates to assist in preparing budget requests for the coming academic year. In keeping with our practices, this process is designed to ensure our resources support our highest priorities, as reflected in the Strategic Plan developed by the College Advisory Planning Committee. Through the respective Vice President, each department has submitted budget request proposals for new funding related to strategic priorities and operational needs. These proposals will be reviewed and prioritized by the Cabinet. The Budget Subcommittee of the Faculty P&B Committee and the Academic Senate Budget Advisory Committee will be consulted for their funding recommendations prior to our final expenditure plan for FY 17.

General Education Assessment Task Force

The General Education Assessment Task Force has sent its year-end report to the Curriculum Committee, for transmission to the Senate, and to the Assessment Committee. The report includes findings from the faculty survey (December- January) and the faculty forum in March, and includes recommendations and next steps. The Task Force is conducting the spring assessment project, collecting artifacts from courses across the disciplines, to be scored against the task force-written rubrics during June. Rubrics include Writing, Analytical Reasoning, Information Management, and Quantitative Reasoning. Some artifacts (especially those from courses participating in the WI initiative) will be loaded into Digication, the college's ePortfolio platform. The majority will be loaded into a new, streamlined software for assessment, Taskstream Aqua. The new software will allow for easier uploading of artifacts and easier scoring, and provides data reports for assessment. The assessment process this spring has received IRB approval, so participating faculty may use the aggregated results from their particular class sections for their own research purposes. Artifact scoring is scheduled for the weeks of June 13 and 20.

2016-20 Technology Plan

The 2016-20 Technology Plan Committee has submitted its final report to the Senate for its review and approval on May 10th. I would like to thank the Committee for all their extraordinary efforts and, in particular, thank all of the campus community and our students who contributed to the plan with input and suggestions.

Student Honors

- On Friday, April 15th, several QCC students competed in the 16th Annual Long Island Subsection of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society's Chemistry Challenge. We are proud to acknowledge that Queensborough won the Gold award in the 2-year College category. I wish to acknowledge Mr. Tao Hong, Ms. Jane Jiang and Ms. Yueli Chen for their hard work and triumphant victory.
- 15 QCC students have returned from their study abroad trip as part of the 2016 Salzburg Global Seminar Study Abroad Program. I wish to thank faculty advisors Dr. Franca Ferrari and Mr. Sebastian Murolo for accompanying the students on their excursion.
- Four (4) QCC students have been selected as recipients of the Friends of Veterans New York Award. Ms. Ana Zarate, Mr. Derek Floyd, Mr. Lianghua Jiang, and Mr. Hooman Arya were each awarded \$500 in tuition assistance to continuing their education. Each of the above-mentioned students has served respectively in the Armed Forces and are anticipated to have completed their degree requirements for graduation at the conclusion of the academic year. Friends of Veterans New York is a non-profit organization, with a main objective of helping to end homelessness among the New York Veterans population. The organization also assists with other projects such as financial aid for veterans' educational expenses.
- The Lambda Sigma Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society held their annual Induction Ceremony on Monday, May 9th in the Student Union Lounge.

Over 60+ students were inducted into this prestigious collective of bright academic scholars. I wish to thank Dr. Emily Tai and Dr. Paris Svoronos for all of their hard work with the inductees during the academic year and Mercy College for serving as this year's official sponsor of the ceremony.

- QCC students Mr. Bobby Lopez and Mr. Ricky Panayoty have been selected as honorees for CUNY Vice Chancellor's Excellence in Leadership Award. Both students have displayed outstanding leadership in service to the College, community, and the University through scholastic and services-related activities during the academic year and as such, will be acknowledged by Dr. Frank Sanchez, CUNY Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, during the award ceremony which will be held at the Great Hall of The City College of New York on Friday, May 13th.
- In a tribute to student talent and faculty commitment to student success, in and out of the classroom, three Queensborough students took 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the 2016 David A. Garfinkel Essay Scholarship: *You, the Juror*. The Essay Contest is sponsored by the Historical Society of the New York Courts. The following student winners received prizes of \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500, respectively.

Daniel Savitz

1st Prize Winner

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Leslie Francis

Wai Shan Ng

2nd Prize Winner

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Leslie Francis

Mavis Duncan-Dyer

3rd Prize Winner

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Theodore Rosen

For more information about the Society or the Essay Scholarship, visit <http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/>.

Faculty Honors

- We are pleased to announce that the Board of the CUNY Academy of the Humanities and Sciences has selected Dr. Frank Jacobs of the History Department for the Henry Wasser Award. The Henry Wasser Awards are given to outstanding CUNY Assistant Professors based on nominations provided by members of the Academy.
- The Speech and Theatre Department has received full accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). This makes Queensborough one of eight community colleges nationally to receive such an accreditation, and the only community college in New York. We are the first program in all of CUNY and the only public college in the metropolitan area to be accredited.

Financial Aid/Scholarships/Grants

- The 2016-2017 Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is currently available on-line for students and families to begin the application process. Although the priority filing deadline was Tuesday, April 19th, please encourage students who haven't already completed it to do so as soon as possible to ensure timely processing and disbursement of their financial aid award packages for the upcoming 2016-2017 academic year.
- *The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation* awarded QCC a three-year grant, of up to \$100,000 per year, for three years, to provide **one-time, emergency grants** to students in good standing with **short-term financial emergencies** to enable them to remain in school, rather than being forced to leave or drop out. The college completed the second year of the grant on December 31, 2015 and has successfully awarded \$200,000 to Queensborough students in need. As of April 27, 2016 the college has awarded \$35,500 for the third year of the grant which runs through December 31, 2016. Ms. Veronica Lukas, Executive Director of Student Financial Services, will be sending periodic e-mail reminders to the college community outlining the grant eligibility and encouraging faculty and staff to refer students to apply. Ms. Karen O'Sullivan, Associate Director of Student Financial Services, will serve as the Grants Manager for this campus initiative. Please refer students with short-term financial emergencies to Ms. O'Sullivan at your earliest convenience. Additional information can be found at www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships
- The CUNY Thomas Tam is currently available for interested students to apply. The Scholarship awards \$1,000 to an individual qualified undergraduate student that is currently enrolled at any CUNY college, Asian or non-Asian, who has demonstrated creativity in the communication of the concerns of the Asian American community in areas such as health, education, culture, media and advocacy. Additional information on this scholarship can be found at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships/>.
- The Finch Foundation Scholarship is still available for eligible students to apply. The \$5000 scholarship is available to female community college students over the age of 22 attending college in the state of New York, New Jersey, or Connecticut. Additional information can be found at <http://finchcollege.org/newscholarships.html>.
- Please encourage our students to avail themselves of the valuable and free resources through the QCC Single Stop Program. A list of the services provided include (but are not limited to) financial benefits screening, financial counseling, legal assistance, tax preparation services and more. Additional information can be found on their website at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop/index.html>.

Grants Report

- **PSC-CUNY Awards – Round 47-** The College received results from the most recent round of PSC CUNY applications – QCC had 62 applications from Faculty and have 35 confirmed awards. We are still awaiting results on 1 Enhanced proposal, which will be

announced in May. PSC-CUNY Round 47 Awards by department & Principal Investigator:

Art & Design - Prof. Anissa Mack, Dr. Kathleen Wentrack

Biological Sciences & Geology - Dr. Peter Novick, Dr. Amos Orlofsky, Dr. Regina Sullivan

Chemistry - Dr. Tirandai Hemraj-Benny, Dr. Sasan Karimi, Dr. Sujun Wei

English - Dr. Kathleen Alves, Dr. Aliza Atik, Prof. Noelia Diaz, Dr. Robin Ford, Dr. George Fragopoulos, Dr. Matthew Lau, Dr. Robert McAlear, Dr. William J. Ryan, Dr. Angela Ridinger-Dottrman, Dr. Mark Schiebe, Dr. John Talbird, Dr. Meghmala Tarafdar, Dr. Elizabeth Toohey, Dr. Agnieszka Tuszynska

Foreign Languages & Literature – Dr. Aranzazu Borrachero, Dr. Maurizio Santoro

Mathematics & Computer Science – Dr. Jonathan Funk, Dr. Azita Mayeli, Dr. David Pham, Dr. Fei Ye

Music – Dr. Mirma Lekic

- CETL has issued a call for proposals for its Pedagogical Research Challenge Awards program. Faculty interested in conducting pedagogical research can receive a grant for up to \$15,000. Applications are due May 6th.

BTECH

The workplace experience for BTECH students at SAP North America in Newtown Square, PA. was a success. Prior to the event, BTECH students competed for thirty-seven available spots on the tour. They had to present an argument for why they wanted to go; what they hoped to learn from the visit; and define a problem they wanted solved through a Design Thinking exercise. The six hour day started with a tour of the green facility, one which has attained Platinum Status awards. They met with representatives from various business lines including pre-sales, sales, consulting, customer service, business analysis, product design and development, implementation and training. SAP employees talked through the SAP Customer Experience Framework including identification of a problem, problem resolution, development, and resolution. The representatives talked in layman's terms and gave relevant examples. Students saw SAP's Design Laboratory and work on new technologies including those supporting virtual reality through oculus solutions. They also witnessed SAP's 24/7 Worldwide Command Center. And lastly they participated in a Design Thinking Challenge in which they presented problems to be solved.

The main problem students wanted solved was: How to raise motivation levels of BTECH students to achieve at high levels and to foster pride in advancement. One of the problem resolutions was to provide various incentives that were tied directly to student interests. Engaged in the very professional Design Thinking process taught students how to analyze and dissect a problem and reach possible alternative solutions. For all the students, this was the first time they had ever experienced or been on a corporate campus. Another exciting development at BTECH is the start of the design FAB Lab --- a Fabrication Laboratory – one that uses various technologies to solve everyday problems i.e., an incubator of design solutions through technology.

Upcoming Events

- The Department of Art & Design's will open its eighth annual Juried Student Exhibition on May 5th at 5 pm in the **QCC Art Gallery** and will be on view through June 12th. This

exhibition features select works from Queensborough Community College's students majoring in various Art and Design mediums.

- The **12th Honors Conference** will be held on Friday, May 6th starting at 11am in the Medical Arts Building. Students will present their scholarly work, and share their research findings in their disciplines, including physics, biology, English, mathematics, the arts and foreign languages.
- An African Art exhibit, *Spirit & Tradition – Vessels from Africa*, opens on May 10th at 5 pm and runs through June 12th. This **QCC Art Gallery** exhibition will acquaint the audience with the techniques used to create traditional ceramic vessels as well as their purpose within specific African cultures.
- The **CSTEP Program** will be holding its annual award ceremony on Wednesday, May 11th at 12:00 p.m. in the Oakland Dining Room to recognize their students for the academic achievements as well as research, internship, and community service participation during the academic year.
- To support the **Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center's** newest original exhibition, *Producing Silence: Hollywood, The Holocaust, and the Jews*, a screening of the 1941 film, *The Great Dictator*, will be shown on Wednesday, May 11th at 12:10pm.
- The Chancellor is hosting the annual **CUNY grants reception** on May 12th to recognize recipients of institutional grants. The Chancellor holds a similar reception in the fall to honor academic research grants. Queensborough's honorees are:
 - 1) Mr. Jeff Chen, Director of Workforce and Professional Development, Continuing Education for the ConEdison STEM Careers Grant;
 - 2) Dr. Joan Petersen and Dr. Simran Kaur, from Biological Sciences and Geology for the STEP Grant; and
 - 3) Ms. Marie Francesca Berrouet, Director of the CSTEP Grant.
- The **KHRCA** will host its Spring **2016 Internship Showcase** on Wednesday May 18th, 2016 at 12:10pm. Students from the three different internship programs will speak about their experiences in the program, what they learned, how it impacted them, and what actions they will take in the future based on lessons learned from the Holocaust.
- Queensborough's **55th Commencement Exercises** will be held on Friday, June 3, 2016, led by Professor Anne Marie Menendez as Grand Marshal. Faculty members and HEOs are encouraged to participate in this event, which is so very meaningful to our graduates and their families. For further information about this year's ceremony, please visit the Commencement webpage at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/commencement/index.html>.