

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate
November 8, 2005

As the season that joyfully celebrates the fruit of our labors with an abundant harvest approaches, it may be time to reflect on the important work that we do for our City and our State. Students come to us for many reasons and from many backgrounds. We guide them, advise them, register them, counsel them, teach them, empower them and prepare them to navigate the very difficult waters of a complex and global society. It is because of this phenomenon that we must re-dedicate ourselves to providing the educational background so needed for success in the present-day U.S. culture. We have the responsibility not only of providing our students with the skills that are necessary to gain employment, but we must overlay that training in a bed of knowledge that provides them with a literary, social and historical perspective, a critical mind, aesthetic appreciation among other general education competencies that make an educated human being. And, we do that well at Queensborough Community College! So, as we enter a period of academic advising, as we get ready for a new semester, let us remember that those who labor in our teaching profession reap a societal harvest that makes our City an even better place in which to live.

The Compact proposal for Queensborough Community College was submitted on October 26th. Now, it is up to all of us to educate our legislators on the importance of this new funding model and gain the approval of the Governor and the State Legislature first, and then the approval of the Mayor and the City Council. I will keep you apprised of the progress that is made throughout the year.

As many of you may know, I met with the Chairs of the Senate Committees on October 19th. I believe that we had a productive exchange of ideas that helped to continue opening channels of communication between the Academic Senate and the Administration.

The College Advisory Planning Committee had its first meeting of the semester, and we reviewed an attempt at a SWOT analysis. This examination of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats for the College was based on internal data and impressions as well as University data. Using the analysis, we will proceed to examine the templates that have been submitted to each Vice President by the departments. This information will be used to begin the preparation of the first draft of the 2006-07 Strategic Plan. We hope to have this process completed by the end of the fall semester.

It is my understanding that the architect's contract for the Holocaust Resource Center is being considered by the State, and we expect it to be released in late November or early December. At this time, there will be a kick off meeting that starts the entire process. We suspect that the facility will be completed by fall 2007. Also, the lower mall will be redone this summer, and we are beginning to lobby for the erection of a dome over the courtyard between the Science building and the Medical Arts building to make that space into a college cafeteria.

Congratulations to our men's track team for winning the Region XV Championship and to the women's track team for the honorable mention received. Go Tigers!