

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate

May 8, 2007

The Mayor released his Executive Budget proposal last week, and as it stands, the community colleges are negatively affected by it. The City Council will consider the proposal and modify it with their own budget. This takes place in June. Therefore, it is imperative that we make our elected officials understand the consequences of not restoring some of the cuts recommended by the Mayor. Below is an analysis of the proposal:

FY2007

For the current fiscal year, the Executive Budget recommends City Support for Community Colleges of \$182.8 million, **a decrease of \$4.9 million** over the City Preliminary Budget.

Current year reductions include:

- o **\$2.7 million from community college operating budgets, related to the Mayor's reduction program.**
- o \$3.0 million in CUNY's centrally-managed energy budget.

Current year increases include:

- o \$0.6 million increase for Collective Bargaining for trades titles and managers.
- o \$0.2 million to BMCC for costs related to the Tribeca Film Institute.

FY2008

Community Colleges

The FY2008 Executive Budget recommends City support for the community colleges of \$175.2 million, **a decrease of \$7.6 million** versus the recommended FY2007 budget.

Community College Funding by Source
(millions)

	FY2007 Base	FY2008 Executive	\$ Change from Base	% Change from Base
State Aid	163.4	172.9	9.5	5.8%
City Support*	182.8	175.2	(7.6)	(4.2)%
Tuition & Other Revenue	185.8	185.8	0.0	0.0%
Total	\$532.0	\$533.9	\$1.9	0.4%

FY2008 year-to-year **reductions total \$23.5 million** and include:

- o **\$3.7 million for the Mayor’s Reduction Program (for a total of \$6.4 million).**
- o \$14.6 million in Community College Operating Support.
- o \$4.5 million for the Safety Net Program.
- o \$0.7 million for City Council Member Items

The Executive Budget includes year-to-year **increases of \$15.9 million**:

- o \$5.5 million for the CUNY ASAP Initiative (for a total of \$6.5 million).
- o \$1.8 million for CUNY Prep (for a total of \$3.5 million).
- o \$8.6 million for mandatory needs such as collective bargaining, energy, fringe benefits, and pensions.

So, for the current fiscal year we must cut \$2.6 million and for the next year we would have \$7.6 million. Clearly we have a lot of work to do!!!

Commencement:

Graduation celebrations will take place on June 1. This is the most important day in the lives of our students and their families. A large number of our graduating students are first generation college graduates, and it is an extraordinary experience for the families to witness their loved ones walk across the stage. I sincerely hope that all members of the faculty, including adjuncts, can be present to celebrate this occasion.

ASAP:

This program is our top priority. We have an opportunity to test out the cohort education model at our campus. We can learn from the experience as we develop other academies. Please familiarize yourself with the requirements of the program and assist in whatever way that you can. We must enroll at least 200 students by June. Bobbi Brauer and her staff are hard at work. But, this is a college-wide initiative! We need all administrative offices and members of the faculty to help in the recruitment, the advising, and the execution of this important program. Please remember that students who have completed 12 credits or less and have no remedial obligations are eligible. Please announce to your classes.

MDRC:

There has been some confusion about this grant. It is important to understand that the MDRC is a research institution that is studying the impact of learning communities on retention. We ARE NOT creating special learning communities for this study. We are using the existing and new learning communities and selecting some of them for the study. There is no such entity as an MDRC Learning community.

POWER OUTAGE:

Kudos go to our Buildings and Grounds staff who worked rapidly to restore power to the Humanities and Science building last week. It is gratifying to see how administrators and staff members are part of the great Queensborough Community College team!!

HONORS CONFERENCE:

What a day on April 27th! To see our students display their knowledge and to see the good work that is done by the faculty to prepare our students was most impressive. Thanks to all who worked so hard to put on this annual Honors Conference.

PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS:

I am delighted to report that over \$400,000 was raised at this year's fundraising gala and that 350 guests were present. One hundred and forty thousand dollars was pledged for the endowment of the Harriet and Kenneth Kupferberg Center and Archives. Sixty-two thousand was earmarked for the G-Unity scholarships and the rest is undesignated and will be distributed as part of the Fund Board.

This is the last meeting before graduation. Let me take this opportunity to, once again, thank you for all the work that you do for our students. Our community of scholars is indeed special in that we are involved in providing excellent educational services in a caring and effective manner. Lately, we have made some inroads in establishing a culture of evidence that examines how we achieve the outcomes that heretofore, we knew we were achieving but had not measured as extensively as we are doing today.

Have a great final examination period and a great summer vacation.