

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

Report of the President
to the Academic Senate
March 10, 2009

Please accept my apologies for not being present at this meeting. I am attending a luncheon with legislators who are alumni of CUNY and SUNY in Albany. Obviously, the purpose of this event is to ask for their support during this difficult budget process.

Middle States Evaluation Team Visit: This coming Sunday, March 15th, the team will arrive. We start with a dinner in the Student Union building at 5:30 p.m., that will include the members of the working groups, department Chairpersons, some members of the QCC Fund Board, College governance leaders including student government, members of the senior administration, possibly representation from the CUNY Board of Trustees, as well as a representative from the Chancellery.

As Dr. Corradetti has informed you, please be ready to meet with each team member, should they request it. Their schedule is very tight and, unless you are in class, you should make yourself available.

Needless to say, this is an important activity, as our ability to provide Federal Financial Aid and the transferability of credits is based on our ability to meet the 14 Characteristics of Excellence established by the Middle States Higher Education Commission.

Budget: There is little to report on the budget. We are in the process of planning our expenditure for next year based on our assumption that an enrollment increase and the increase in tuition will offset the proposed State and City cuts.

The enrollment target for the College will be set by the enrollment management Committee. We are planning to set enrollment targets by departments and to allocate funding according to enrollment needs. Dean Newcomb is working with members of the Cabinet and with Department Chairs to finalize the methodology to be used in determining departmental budget allocations.

Freshman Academies: The 10 new Freshman Coordinators have been hired and have started their orientation. Also, we have signed a contract with Derek Price to create an Assessment Protocol for the Freshman Academies. **Derek V. Price, Ph.D.** is the principal owner of DVP PRAXIS LTD, a national leader in strategic thinking for institutional transformation and systems change, especially the use of data-driven strategies to improve program and organizational effectiveness. Dr. Price previously held the position of director of higher education research at **Lumina Foundation** for Education, and was assistant professor of sociology at Morehead State University. He received his doctorate in sociology from American University, and holds a master's degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and a bachelor's degree from Duke University. For more information on Derek Price go to: <http://www.dvp-praxis.org/>

Athletic Champions: All our student-athletes are champions in my eyes. However, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate our Women's Basketball Team on their win over Kingsborough to move to the finals in the CUNY league. Also, our congratulations go to the Men's Basketball Team that valiantly battled Kingsborough for the CUNY Championship. They were not successful, but we are proud of their efforts.

Partners for Progress: In these difficult times, we are still able to attract friends to participate in this, the major fund-raiser for the College. As of this writing, we are about half way to our goal. Please ask your friends to take out an ad in the Journal. The deadline is March 17th. The smallest ad is \$50.

HRCA Program on Global Terrorism: On Tuesday, March 10, Dr. Alberto Nisman, Argentina's Minister on Terrorism, Asaf Shariv, Israel's Consul General, Edward O'Callaghan, former Chief of the National Security Unit of the US Attorney's Office of the Southern District of NY and Harlan Levy Esq., Anti-Terrorism Prosecutor, will be speaking in **M136 at 7:30 PM** on the Bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Argentina. Nisman is considered the re-incarnation of Simon Weisenthal. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to get first-hand information on an important topic. Please share this with your students.