

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of The City University of New York

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
to the
ACADEMIC SENATE

December 14, 2010

Middle States Accreditation:

- At its November 18, 2010 meeting, The Middle States Commission on Higher Education voted to accept Queensborough's Monitoring Report for Reaccreditation. This report was developed over the last year under the leadership of Dr. Arthur Corradetti, Associate Dean for Accreditation, Assessment, and Institutional Effectiveness, and in partnership with the Academic Senate, the Administrative and Academic Assessment Task Forces, the College Personnel and Budget Committee and the College Advisory Planning Committee (CAPC).

CUNYfirst:

- The CUNYfirst student registration system was launched at QCC on November 17. As of December 6, over 10,000 QCC students have claimed their CUNYfirst account and more than 7000 students were registered for spring 2011 classes, in addition to over 900 registrants for our winter session. Tuition and fee bills for the winter and spring semesters will be sent to students the week of December 13. Students will also be advised of the various ways to pay their bills along with a deadline to finalize payments. At its November meeting, in light of severely constrained resources, the CUNY Board of Trustees authorized a 5% tuition increase for Spring 2011. For QCC students, this increase is \$75.00 per term for NYC residents enrolled full time. The University continues to work with NYS legislators in support of increased levels of TAP awards and adjusted guidelines for student progress, including student GPA and credits earned.
- Queensborough faculty will use the CUNYfirst system to enter their Fall 2010 grades. Full time and adjunct faculty who have not yet 'claimed' their CUNYfirst account should do so as soon as possible. Assistance with this process is available from QCC's CUNYfirst *help desk* which is available Monday through Friday from 8 AM until 10 PM and Saturday from 9 AM to 5 PM. Directions on how to claim one's CUNYfirst account, how to review current class rosters, and how to enter grades will be sent to all faculty via several emails this week. In person technical assistance with entering grades will also be available to faculty the last week of the semester.

Remediation and Articulation:

- As student access, retention, performance and timely degree completion are major issues for our University, studies of remediation and articulation are under review by the Central Office. The work of our faculty to conduct research, and develop/implement innovative approaches to remediation in reading, writing and

mathematics will be vital as a review of these factors in student success are underway at the University. A recent article by Zachry, E. M., & Schneider, E. (September 2010) “Building Foundations for Student Readiness: A review of rigorous research and promising trends in developmental education”, National Center for Postsecondary Research, was distributed by the CUNY Office of Academic Affairs to the Provosts for discussion. The article can be found at http://www.postsecondaryresearch.org/conference/PDF/NCPR_Panel%203_ZachrySchneiderPaper.pdf Given the growing external pressure for rational change to improve student learning outcomes and timely degree completion in an environment of limited resources, *remediation* will be the focus of campus discussions and actions by our departments of Mathematics and Basic Educational Skills over the next few months.

- Executive Vice Chancellor Lexa Logue is forming a CUNY committee, with campus faculty representation, to discuss and recommend strategies for improved articulation between community and senior colleges. This is in response to a recent University report on “Improving Student Transfer at CUNY”, which illustrates the challenges encountered by students transferring from AA and AS programs to the baccalaureate programs in CUNY. The costs to students and the University for the extra credits needed to complete the baccalaureate is estimated at 70 million per year in tuition, faculty costs, support services, facilities, etc.

January Institutes for Faculty Development to support full time and adjunct faculty engagement in high impact activities and e learning: *Interested faculty should contact our Office of Academic Affairs.*

- Writing Intensive Certification: January 18 through January 20 from 4-7 pm in H205
- Learning Community collaboration and development: January 24 from 9-5 in A 502d as follow up to November and December group meetings
- E learning institute to develop technical skills as well as course content for hybrid courses: January 10-13 from 10 AM to 3 PM, and January 24-27 from 10 AM to 3 PM, all in L 117, with necessary development activities to be completed by individual participants in the intervening week

Upcoming events:

- Our Reception for Donors to the QCC Foundation will be held on Thursday, December 16. This annual event invites our major donors (individuals and representatives of corporations and foundations) to the campus in appreciation of their support of student scholarships, faculty development, and enriched learning opportunities through the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and the Art Gallery. So far this year, 111 student scholarships (from \$500 to \$1575) were awarded to incoming and continuing students.
- Orientation for new full time faculty will begin with a formal program on Wednesday, January 26 and continue with activities for our newest colleagues throughout the spring semester.
- *Freshmen First*, Student Affairs’ orientation program for Spring 2011 freshmen, will be held on Wednesday, January 26. All first time, full time degree students will participate in this event which brings new students together as a class cohort, as well as by their individual Freshman Academy.

- “Do We Make a Difference?” is the theme of our annual College Convocation, scheduled for Thursday morning, January 27. Led by QCC faculty who have engaged in pedagogical innovations and assessment over the last year, the Convocation will focus on the outcomes of their work on remediation as well as assessment models for academic departments.
- As part of a series of campus visits, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein will meet with our college community on Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at 10:30 AM in M 136 to discuss University priorities, initiatives, including remediation and articulation, as well as the fiscal outlook for FY 12 and FY 13.

Grant Opportunity:

- Round 8 of the CUNY Community College Collaborative Incentive Research Grant program (C³IRG) for 2011-12 is now open for applications. “This program is designed to support the collaborative research efforts of faculty at CUNY Community Colleges. *Priority will be given to applications proposing pedagogical research projects.* Those considering applying for a C³IRG in the area of pedagogical research should consider attending the Pedagogical Research Workshop (designed to incorporate discussion of issues related to pedagogical research design and grant writing) at BMCC on January 14th, organized by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research. For links to the Round 8 guidelines, application forms and the registration form for the Pedagogical Research Workshop, please visit <http://www.cuny.edu/research/faculty-resources/internal-funding-programs/community-college-grant.html>.

The Budget:

- The fiscal year 11 budget continues to be a challenge, and we expect final word within the next week on the amount of the City mid-year reduction to community colleges, estimated to be approximately \$2 million. The recently enacted tuition increase should cover approximately one half of this reduction, and the remainder will need to be achieved in the form of reductions to our FY 11 budget. Final decisions regarding specific actions to offset this mid year budget reduction will be made in consultation with the Executive team, the Budget Committee of the College Personnel and Budget Committee (three chairpersons elected by their peers), and the College Advisory Planning Committee (CAPC). At this time, if enrollment and revenue projections hold, savings will likely come from holding certain administrative positions vacant, as well as reductions in OTPS and Hourly personnel.
- Planning for what is expected to be a more challenging 2012 financial environment will begin by early January. Led by Vice President Sherri Newcomb, the resource allocation process, our decision making approach for an “all funds” budget, will be based on our FY 12 Strategic Plan, as developed by the College Advisory Planning Committee (CAPC). This body, composed of representatives from the Faculty Executive Committee, the Academic Senate, the Student Government Executive Board and the administration, establishes our priorities for initiatives, in addition to our core activities of teaching, instructional and student support, health and safety, as well as business development and continuity. Consultation on the FY 12 budget will also include the Budget Committee of the College P and B, and the proposed Special Advisory Committee of the Academic Senate on Queensborough’s Resource

Allocation Process. As noted by Dr. Tai in her report, this Special Advisory Committee will include a representative from the Budget Committee of the College P and B (who will chair the group), along with a representative from the Academic Senate, a representative from the Faculty Executive Committee, a representative from the Executive Board of the Student Government, as well as Vice President Sherri Newcomb. During the period of January 2011 through end of fiscal year 2012, this special advisory committee would receive reports from the VP for Finance and Administration on budget requests, expenses and revenue projected, discuss budget priorities in the context of our Strategic Plan, and discuss efficiencies to maximize resources. Also, as it is the main impetus for our budget requests/allocations, the FY 12 Strategic Plan would be presented to the college community through open fora in the Spring 2011 semester. Our budget model for the coming year will follow the CUNY COMPACT construct, which includes state and city support for reasonable mandatory costs (salaries, benefits, energy, etc.), student tuition/fees/financial aid, philanthropy, as well as administrative efficiencies, enterprise and grants.