

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
THE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE

To: The Academic Senate
From: Sharon Lall-Ramnarine, Chairperson
Date: August 18, 2011
Subject: ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

Members:

Sharon Lall-Ramnarine, Chair
Eileen Tittmann, Secretary
Sharon Reeves
Isac Hernandez, Student Representative

President's Designee:

Vice President Ellen Hartigan

Senate Steering Committee Designee:

Manette Berlinger, Alternate Secretary

Invited Member:

George Muchita

The Awards and Scholarships Committee met several times during the academic year 2009-2010 to evaluate and recommend nominations for the following awards and scholarships:

Special Awards: 10 recipients chosen out of 34 applications from 16 applicants (some students were nominated for multiple awards)

1. **John F. Kennedy Memorial Award** – given to Denise Sanchez, a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the college and the community;
2. **Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award** – given to Hia Abdelqader, a graduating student who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in promoting racial harmony and appreciation of cultural diversity;

3. **Ray Ricketts Memorial Award** - given to Kathleen Fortune, a returning student (left college at one point) who exhibits exceptional scholarship and leadership;
4. **Women’s Club Award** – given to Leilani Blira-Koessler, Sarah Levine, Vour Clarke, who have each demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the college community;
5. **Incentive Awards (Day and Evening)** – given to day students: Margaret Atenaga, Robin Wills and evening students: Jeremy Niland, Shamin Gooding, who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance and are working parents.
6. **Continuing Student Academic Merit Scholarship** – given to current and continuing students who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance (a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 required). In the fall semester (2010) awards of \$500 each were given to 53 students out of 76 applicants. In the spring semester (2011) awards of \$500 each were given to 79 students out of 117 applicants.
7. **The Phi Beta Kappa Association (Academic Honor Society) of New York Scholarship** – one-thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) scholarships awarded to two (2) New York City Community College Students -who, having started in a NYC community college environment, are now inspired to continue a quest for a Liberal Arts education leading to a Bachelors degree. Five QCC students were nominated and one (Mariyam Jalees) won one of the two NY scholarships.

Fall 2010 Recipients (53)		Spring 2011 Recipients (79)	
Yasmin Obriwala	Jeonghwa Noh	Amy Lee	Alina Gulfraz
Zorica Rodic	Katarzyna Hughes-Lyskawa	Ana Gutierrez	Andre Simms
Mugunghwa Park	Ese P. Abohwo	Annu Gupta	Artur Niazov
Robert Baily-White	Yun Fan	Artur Rozbicki	Aurore Mayjonade
Lin Han	Lee Kon Chen	Bekim Hajrizi	Bingnan Jia
Gabrielle Martinez	Dmytro Kutepov	Cheng Leong	Daniel Carpenter
Carlo Echeverri	Qiaolin Huang	Fathimabenazir Nazumudeen	Danielle Derdiarian
Bing Jian Huang	Md S. Hossain	Garo Vartabedian	David Hwang
Leen Feliciano	Elana Santos	Glenn Polatoff	Deokmi Ok
Nakyoun Lee	Amy Bolick	Hannah Hwang	Eliran Gilstron
Sherry Tan	Stephanie Sandson	Hasan Ozcan	Hun Ki Lee
Zwei Pe	Maggie Lee	Hia Abdelqader	Hyoung Park

Golchekhra Mordehachayev	Mariyam Jalees	Huiyi Li	Jasmeet Kaur
Qingyao Ding	Suk Ju Ham	Jason Castillo	Kevin Chavez
Yekaterina Yusupova	Carlos Jimenez	Jennifer David	Kevin Tang
Kate Montero	Awa Ba	Jennyfer Montoya	Kierra Greenwood
Hong Yeol Chan	Elizabeth Lara	Jeongah Kim	Lei Shao
Rafael Ruiz	Andrea S. Ormeno	Jim He	Lisa Kurner
Jennifer Lopez	Bindu Mathew	Jimmy Lambropoulos	Louis Lee
Denise Sanchez	Guiovanni Gutierrez	Jin Seo Yoon	Mario Del Moral
Jose Sanchez	Amanda Kaju	Jonguk Sung	Marjorie Morales
Sarah Ahn	Ljumnije Cekovic	Jordan Pier	Maurice Powell
Marcia Prashad	Dave Dela Cruz	Kevin Anglade	Mingxiu Sun
Leilani Blira-Koessler	Andrena Barnes	Natalie Zorrilla	Murtaza Akbar
Mark Johnson	Maceo Jackson	Nekesha St Rose	Nadira Etwaroo
Cliford Francois	Roxanne Niles-Charles	Nicole Limpsecht	Naihua Ko
	Elma Rahman	Norlan Jackson	Renee Joseph
		Pareema Khaliq	Robin Wills
		Raquel Asonye	Rolda Charles
		Raymond So	Rui Feng Lin
		Raysean Mercer	Salma Shirzad
		Shuaib Uddin	Seung Lee
		Stacy-Ann Robinson	Seungyeon Hong
		Stefanie Carrano	Sharon Ramati
		Stephanie Salarbux	Suyeon Yu
		Yan Zeng	Tatiana Koverina
		Ying Lin	Wjeewani Boteju
		Yuji Hotta	Xiaoshan Dai
		Zeng Shen Lan	Zongyong Zou
		Jonnelle Myrie	

8. Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges - given to 38 students (out of 42 total applicants) who demonstrated scholarship, active participation in college and community activities, and potential for continued development (a minimum of 30 completed credits required):

1. Leilani Blira-Koessler	2. Jason Castillo
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3. Kevin Chavez	4. Arnold Chiang
5. Rebecca Cho	6. Neal De La Cruz
7. Rebecca Durandis	8. Cassandra Fegert
9. Alina Gulfraz	10. Suk Ju Ham
11. Isac Hernandez	12. Mariyam Jalees
13. Jonghyun Kim	14. Gregory Kissoon
15. Lisa Kurner	16. Daniel Lafaurie
17. Laurent Mathurin	18. Adria Merchant
19. May Myat Moe	20. Marjorie Morales
21. Fatima Moslimani	22. Fathima Nazumudeen
23. Deokmi Ok	24. Sharon Ramati
25. Stacy Ann Robinson	26. Alicia Romeo
27. Richard Rosario	28. Stephanie Salarbux
29. Denise Sanchez	30. Jean-Robert Savaille
31. Lei Shao	32. Andre Smithson
33. Nekesha St. Rose	34. Rebecca Tannis
35. Simon Ulubabov	36. Engred Vanegas
37. Man Ying Wong	38. Esther Yang

Summary of applications received and awards made during 2009-2010 and 2010-2011

Scholarship / Award	2009-2010		2010-2011	
	Applicants	Recipients	Applicants	Recipients
John F. Kennedy Memorial	12	1	7	1
Ray Rickets Memorial	7	1	3	1
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial	8	1	7	1
Women's Club	16	1	12	3
Incentive Day	1	1	3	2
Incentive Evening	1	1	2	2
Academic Merit Fall	70	19	76	53
Academic Merit Spring	126	40	117	79
Who's Who	38	33	42	38
Phi Beta Kappa			7	5 (nominees)

In comparison to previous academic years the response to all scholarship awards was mostly the same. The Academic Merit Scholarship continued to receive a strong response. Seventy-three more Queensborough students received the award this year. Five more Queensborough students were included among *Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges* this year, although the

total number of applicants (42) continue to be extremely low. The college is permitted to approve up to 150 nominees.

Progress

The recommendations from the previous year to have committee members receive the applications prior to committee meetings; to sort scholarship applications by GPA and to indicate what topics the applicant essay should address were implemented. The committee saw an improvement in the quality of the applicant essays. The review process was smoother and faster. Also, having applications to review ahead of time allowed for more thorough reviews and left time during meetings for discussions for improvement.

Challenges

- It was noted that the eligibility criteria for the various awards and scholarships were established since their inception which in some cases is a decade or more ago. The dollar amount of the awards and scholarships has also been unchanged. The committee also has no knowledge of the dollar amounts of the special awards. This makes it difficult when deciding if more than one student of equal qualifications should receive a specific award.
- Many of the personal essays of the most qualified students (highest GPA) were below expectations in terms of quality
- There was great disparity in the recommendation letters. Some were no more than two sentences; some were bulleted lists—only a few were detailed letters.
- It was noted that one reason for the poor response for faculty nominations of students to be included in the *Who's Who* is because faculty are not aware of student (in a class at large) accomplishments.

Recommendations

1. The Committee Chair and the Presidents' Designee of the committee should meet Vice President Zins and review how to update the eligibility criteria of the various awards. Also, there should be an effort to find out the amount of each award and discuss the possibility of increasing the amounts if necessary. For example the Ray Rickets could also include a phrase on "demonstrated need" and the Incentive awards for working parents ought to have a minimum GPA requirement and stipulate that the children should still be dependents.
2. A sample recommendation letter should accompany all calls for awards and scholarship applications. This will be particularly useful for new faculty.
3. It is recommended that the *Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities* application form should state that *either* student activity *or* community service (including military service) is sufficient for consideration. The application form should also stress

that faculty should ensure that all supporting documents regarding community service be included with the applications for their nominees.

4. The following is recommended in order to receive more nominations for the Who's who from faculty:
 - a) The application materials should be sent to students urging them to list their accomplishments in specific areas and to approach faculty to nominate them
 - b) Department Chairs should be asked to solicit nominations from their faculty.
Nominating and guiding students to apply for awards and scholarships can be considered service
 - c) The committee should provide a sample recommendation letter for faculty to facilitate the nomination process
 - d) The Library should purchase and display the current copy of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges
5. The Continuing Academic Merit Scholarship applicant list that is numbered and sorted by GPA should also list the current QCC credits of the applicants to speed up the review process. The list should also be sent to the committee members by e-mail for them to record their votes and comments. This way the decision meeting can include a committee members' input even if the person is late or has an emergency on the day of the meeting.
6. Calls for Continuing Academic Merit Scholarships applications should stress the *importance* of submitting a *quality* essay
7. The Awards and Scholarships Committee generates a large volume of paper. In the 2010-2011 year the committee reviewed over 269 applications. Each application with all supporting documents is copied 5-6 times for each committee member to review. The committee can possibly set up a Blackboard site like other committees of the Academic Senate. However in order to do this and also to solicit more applications from the college community for the various awards the committee Chair should be give about one hour of released time per semester or per year depending on need.

Committee Members for 2011-2012

Sharon Lall-Ramnarine, Chair

Kimberley Bugg, Secretary

John Gilleaudeau, Steering Committee Designee

Vice President Ellen Hartigan, Presidents' Designee

Cassandra Fegert, Student Representative

