



Report of the President
to the
Academic Senate
May 13, 2014

Enrollment Update

- The Enrollment Management team activities are fully focused on reaching our new and continuing enrollment targets for Fall 2014. As of April, applications for freshmen are level, however, admitted freshmen have increased, possibly due to faster university application processing and more robust communication to applicants. Enrollment Management will continue to monitor this trend.
- Transfer application activity is healthy, showing modest gains in both applications and admitted students.
- The College opened for Direct Admit applications on April 25th and foot traffic to the Office of Admissions has increased significantly.
- In an effort to work more collaboratively and effectively with the Division of Academic Affairs, Dr. Brian Kerr and Ms. Laura Bruno are meeting with the Academic Chairs to discuss the information they need from the Enrollment Management team to better assist them with course planning and scheduling.

Advisement Updates

- Academic Advisement for new and continuing students is well underway. Continuing student advisement began March 17th and a robust campaign (postcards, email, social media, flat screens on campus) to encourage students who need advisement to do so by May 31st is ongoing. Please encourage those students required to meet with an academic adviser to do so as soon as possible.
- With more newly admitted students in the pipeline sooner, Academy Advisement has begun to advise and register new students earlier than last year (April 14th s. May 13th).
- Advisement is taking place across all Academies. Registration-ready students are being invited to advisement through Hobsons CRM technology and Academy Advisers have been asked to assume a more holistic "relationship manager"--screening students for foreign language and remedial speech placements as well as providing students with basic information on how to check on their financial aid status.

Faculty Honors

- Queensborough is very proud to celebrate five faculty colleagues who have been awarded the Chancellor's Research Fellowships for Community College Faculty: Dr. Aranzazu Borrachero, Foreign Languages and Literature, Dr. Jonathan Cornick, Mathematics and Computer Science, Dr. Megan Elias, History, Dr. Andrew Nguyen, Biological Sciences and Geology, Dr. Monica Trujillo, Biological Sciences and Geology. Congratulations to all!
- Congratulations to Dr. Paris Svoronos, Department of Chemistry, on his invitation to serve as a first round judge for the 2014 Carnegie/CASE U.S. Professors of the Year awards. Each year, The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) honors faculty as outstanding professors in several categories, including community colleges, senior colleges, and graduate schools. This national award recognizes significant contributions by faculty as leaders in their sectors to advance teaching and student learning, in the classroom and as mentors. Dr. Svoronos is a past recipient of this award, honored in Washington D. C. as the U.S. Outstanding Community College Professor in 2003.

Student Awards

- *Ms. Yueting Chen*, who graduated with an Associate degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences from Queensborough in January 2014, is the recipient of a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. The competitive scholarship—the first of its kind awarded to a Queensborough student—provides up to \$30,000 per year to top community college transfer students seeking to complete a bachelor's degree. It is the largest private scholarship for community college transfer students in the country. Awardees this year included 85 finalists selected from 3,705 applications representing 737 community colleges from across the U.S. Yueting is now a junior at Stony Brook University and is conducting research in genetics. Qualified students must demonstrate exceptionally high academic ability and Yueting carried a 3.9 G.P.A. at Queensborough. Aside from her outstanding academic achievements, Yueting also demonstrated leadership in the community and financial need. Several professors were key players in guiding her through the application process, namely her mentors, Drs. Paris Svoronos of the Department of Chemistry, who sparked her interest in the sciences; Emily Tai of the Department of History, who nominated her for the award; and Raji Subramaniam, Department of Biological Sciences and Geology, who wrote a recommendation letter on her behalf; and, Adjunct Lecturer James Geasor of the Department of English, who lent many hours assisting her with essay revisions and the complexities of the multi-phased scholarship application process.
- *Ms. Lida Ramos Arce* won the CUNY prize in the 2014 David A. Garfinkel Essay Competition, awarded by the Historical Society of the New York Courts. Ms. Arce will be presented with her prize by Judge Jenny Rivera at the annual Law Day ceremony in Albany. Her mentor, Professor Leslie Francis as well as Dr. Jonas Falik and other Business Department faculty members traveled to Albany for the award ceremony.

- For the third year in a row Queensborough students participated in the Undergraduate Research Symposium at Columbia University on March 20 and for the last three years have presented the largest number of poster presentations. Out of a total 22 accepted submissions- fifteen were by Queensborough students. Other presenters came from institutions such as Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University, Cooper Union, The University of Southern California, Rutgers University, Stony Brook University and Syracuse University. Our student presentations were based on research conducted at Queensborough or during internships at Stony Brook University, Binghamton University, The Food and Drug Administration and the New York City-Division of Environmental Protection. Congratulations to our outstanding faculty who selflessly sacrificed their time and spring break to mentor students preparing for such an important event. In particular, Dr. Nidhi Gadura, Department of Biological Sciences and Geology; as well professors from the Department of Chemistry, namely, Drs. Jun Shin, Derek Bruzewicz, Paul Sideris, David Sarno, Soraya Svoronos, and Pedro Irigoyen. Additionally, Drs. John Buoncora and Kee Park from the Electrical Computer and Engineering Technology.
- Sandy Enriquez***, who is graduating this spring, was recently offered two competitive internships, one from The City College of the University of New York and one from the University of Tennessee. She was planning to participate in the summer internship program at the University of Tennessee until she was offered an opportunity to conduct research at Princeton University while participating in the Research Experience for Undergraduates Program at the Center for Mid-InfraRed Technologies for Health and the Environment. At Queensborough, Sandy has completed more than 32 credits of Honors classes, has conducted group tutoring, served as President of the Chemistry Club and is currently the President of Phi Theta Kappa. It is such achievements as this which result in exceptional outcomes. Congratulations to Dr. Paris Svoronos of the Department of Chemistry who mentored Sandy in her undergraduate research, the many presentations in various American Chemical Society Conferences and a host of other distinctive scholarly endeavors.
- In other good news, several of our students presented their scientific findings at the 33rd Annual Conference of Empire State Association of Two Year College Biologists on April 12. They are: Viviana Torres, who was awarded third place for Towards the Synthesis of a Potent, Selective, and Covalent Inhibitor of Cysteine Cathepsin L; mentored by Dr. Sanjai Kumar of Queens College. We also acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the following students and their mentors: Christopher Chin and Janil Espinal for Analysis of Tissue Factor Levels in Metastatic Breast Cells; mentored by Drs. Andrew Nguyen and Regina Sullivan, Biological Sciences and Geology; Christian Rivoira for The Effects of Resveratrol Compounds on the Motility and Proliferation of F10 Melanoma Cells, Drs. Morris and Rotenberg of Queens College. Viviana, Christopher, Janil and Christian are all participants in RIMS funded by QCC-NIH Bridges to Baccalaureate Program. Congratulations to all the students and mentors including Dr. Patricia Schneider, Biological Sciences and Geology and Director of the NIH Bridges to Baccalaureate Program.

Periodic Review Report

- A draft of the periodic review report is available on the college's website at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/selfStudy/prr.html>. A comment period for the campus community was open until May 2. In addition, open hearings to discuss the draft were held on April 24, 25, and 28. The PRR committee is now working to review, organize, and incorporate where appropriate changes to the report based on the comments and suggestions received. The report is due to Middle States on June 1. Our thanks to all those who participated in the comment period—your input is most appreciated.

FY 15 Budget

- QCC's annual Resource Planning & Allocation Process for the FY 15 budget plan is underway. Divisions and departments have submitted their budget requests based on the FY 15 Strategic Plan, and meetings conducted by Vice President Faulkner and OAA staff will be held with the heads of academic, student services and administrative departments to review preliminary requests. In addition, consultation meetings with the Budget Advisory Subcommittee of the P&B Committee and the Academic Senate Budget Advisory Committee will be scheduled. Budget decisions, contingent upon funding, will be finalized over the summer.

BTECH (Business Technology Early College High School)

- *High School Curriculum:* The work of the BTECH Curriculum Subcommittee, led by Dr. Birchfield, continues with preparation and discussion of developmental and general education programming including that of the Speech Department. QCC Faculty representing five different academic departments are now participating in the design and development of the programs. In addition, Hoa Tu, Principal of BTECH and Interim Vice President Ward met with the chairs of Academic Literacy and Speech and Theatre and with the Director of Service Learning. Additional required skills are being mapped as conversations with employees in target jobs in the field of Business Technology are interviewed and skills are being identified.
- *Marketing:* The work of the Marketing Subcommittee, led by Executive Director, Stephen DiDio, included a review of a video whiteboard being developed by SAP Marketing design personnel. The whiteboard will be used for recruiting and information purposes. The committee is also reviewing proposals for a Media Plan for search optimization. All partners were represented at a kick-off meeting to discuss the establishment of a Media/Communication Plan. Objectives of the Media Plan include driving visibility and attendance at BTECH while showcasing the school's opportunities; leverage BTECH to establish relationships with important local leaders, government officials, global education influencers, media and others; reaching the public with one voice and one message about this new school; keeping the public abreast about our progress; and position BTECH as a best practice to scale model across multiple locations.
- *Student and teacher recruitment:* 116 students, mostly from Queens, are being admitted to the inaugural class in September 2014. This is a diverse and very motivated group of

students. Many of the high school teachers have been interviewed, with appointments anticipated July 1.

- *BTECH Steering Committee:* The Steering Committee has identified two new subcommittees one for Professional Development and the other for Transition, Intervention and Enrichment. Professional Development for teachers, faculty and administrators associated with the program will be designed based on DOE, SAP, QCC and third party programming. An upcoming SAP Sapphire conference, for example, will be a solid introduction for those teachers and faculty who have not worked in the corporate sector and who will benefit from an understanding of the systems, policies and best practices employed at SAP. The Transition, Intervention, and Enrichment committee will focus on the needs of students transitioning from middle school to high school, from high school to college, and from college to employment.

Upcoming Events

- On Sunday, May 18th at 1 p.m., Dr. Steve Luckert, a scholar at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will give a lecture entitled, *Arthur Szyk, Soldier in Art* at the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives. Arthur Szyk, a Polish-Jewish artist and activist was an acclaimed illuminator and political illustrator, whose anti-Nazi caricatures were widely published in the United States during WWII.
- On Wednesday, May 28th at 12 p.m., the concluding presentation by student interns in the Asian Social Justice Internship Program will take place in the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives. Students selected to participate in this program have met weekly for one hour at the KHRCA to examine and discuss the impact of WWII on those residents living in occupied Asia.
- Sunday, June 1st at 1 p.m., Dr. Sarah Cushman, a scholar at Clark University will present a lecture, *The Women of Auschwitz – Birkenau, A Female Face of Genocide* at the KHRCA. Dr. Cushman will explore the interactions among the mostly Jewish prisoners at the women's camp and the prison functionaries.
- The final student presentations for the KHRCA Holocaust Internships will be held in the center on June 4th at 12 p.m. Holocaust interns examine and discuss the impact WWII had on those residents living in Europe's Jewish communities. The students then use this knowledge to conduct an intensive interview of local survivors and present his/her story to the other interns as well as interested members of the QCC community.
- The Department of Art & Design's sixth annual Juried Student Exhibition featuring select works from Queensborough Community College's Art and Design students opened May 8 in the QCC Art Gallery and will be on exhibit through June 16.
- Artwork by residents of Venture House is on display at the QCC Art Gallery until June 29th. Venture House and the QCC Department of Nursing have collaborated to provide community education through an exhibition of the works of artists who are members of

Venture House in order to reduce the stigma of mental illness. This is the second exhibition at QCC by Venture House artists.

- Queensborough's 53rd Commencement Exercises will be held on Friday, May 30, 2014. Faculty members and HEOs are encouraged to participate in this event, which is so very meaningful to our graduates and their families. For further information about this year's ceremony, please visit the Commencement webpage at www.qcc.cuny.edu/commencement.
- Noted documentary photographer Robert Nickelsberg's photographs will be on display at the QCC Art Gallery from June 19 to September 10. The exhibit called Afghanistan: A Distant War will focus on the day-to-day consequences of war, poverty, oppression, and political turmoil in Afghanistan.