



***Report of the President  
to the  
Academic Senate  
February 10, 2015***

**Enrollment Update**

13,241 students, including 827 freshmen and 769 transfer students are enrolled this semester. This effort was possible through the work of our Enrollment Management team, the Offices of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs and the support of the academic departments. The EM team, led by Dean Laura Bruno, coordinated all these partners and carried out an early launch of direct admissions, advisement and registration to ensure the successful enrollment of our Spring 2015 classes. The team has already begun work on the recruitment of students for the summer and fall semesters, with the first phase of Fall 2015 applicants received for processing.

**Recent Appointments of Faculty and Staff**

- Nine new colleagues joined our faculty this semester. Please welcome Ms. Kaitlin Santoro (Art & Design), Dr. Amos Orlofsky (Biological Sciences & Geology), Dr. Anuradha Srivastava (Biological Sciences & Geology), Mr. Mahir Hossain (English), Mr. Timothy Keough (History), Dr. Rezan Akpinar (Health, Physical Education & Dance-Massage Therapy), Professor William Blick (Library), Mr. Alexander Martinez (Mathematics & Computer Science), and Professor Janet Franzese (Nursing).
- Dr. Brian A. Kerr has been appointed Acting Assistant Dean of Students in the division of Student Affairs. Since joining the college in 2004, Dr. Kerr has played a number of key roles at the College, most recently as Senior Director of Articulation, Transfer and Educational Partnerships in the Division of Academic Affairs. Previously, he served as Director of Academic Advisement, Assistant Director of MALES, and also served as Interim Chief Diversity Officer. Dr. Kerr received his baccalaureate degree from The University at Albany, his master's degree from Stony Brook University, and his doctorate from St. John's University.
- After a successful search, we are pleased to announce that Mr. Edwin Gonzalez has been appointed as Coordinator of the Office of Military and Veterans Services. Mr. Gonzalez, a veteran of six years in the Army National Guard as a Human Resources Sergeant, joined QCC as part of the Registrar's Office in 2007, in the information services and graduation audit sectors. Prior to serving in the Military Veterans Services Office, Mr. Gonzales was an Academy Adviser in Liberal Arts and a co-Advisor for Military and Veteran Services. Mr. Gonzalez is a graduate of QCC with an Associate in Arts degree and a baccalaureate degree from CUNY Baruch College in Marketing Management and Communications. The Office of Military and Veterans Services has moved to larger quarters

in the Library Building, Room 421, to provide a greater range of services to our military veterans and their families. Mr. Gonzales will be joined by PROVE interns from the Hunter School of Social Work as well as QCC student veteran interns.

- A national search for the new director of the KHRCA has been completed, and Dr. Daniel Leshem will join us on February 23. Dr. Leshem holds his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Emory University, where his dissertation was on *The Language of Suffering: Writing and Reading the Holocaust*. He is fluent in three languages: English, French and Hebrew (his native language), and has basic knowledge of German, Yiddish and Spanish. Most recently, he served as the Associate Director for Research at the Shoah Foundation at the University of Southern California. Previously, at Emory University, Dr. Leshem was the Director of the project: *Holocaust Denial on Trial: Using History to Confront Distortions*.

### **Student Honors/Awards/Achievements**

- We congratulate QCC students Ms. Daysi Proano and Ms. Silvia Salamone, who have been named to the *Phi Theta Kappa All New York Academic Team*. A special thank you to Dr. Emily Tai and Dr. Paris Svoronos for their tireless work as advisors and mentors to the students in our Lambda Sigma chapter of the national Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

- Fifteen QCC students have been selected to participate in the 2015 Salzburg Global Seminar program in Austria during our spring break. The students will be accompanied by Dr. Wilma Fletcher-Anthony, Director of the Counseling Center, and Dr. Anthony Monahan from the Department of Health, Physical Education and Dance.

- The 50th anniversary of the College Discovery program across CUNY campuses was celebrated this past December. College Discovery continues to have a significant impact on the retention and graduation success of historically and academically disadvantaged students.

### **Opportunities/Resources for Students**

- The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation awarded QCC a three-year grant, of up to \$100,000 per year, for three years, to provide one-time, emergency grants to students in good standing with short-term financial emergencies to enable them to remain in school, rather than being forced to leave or drop out. The College successfully awarded \$100,000 in emergency funding during the first year of the program. We have received the second year of funding and to assist students in need. Ms. Veronica Lukas, Executive Director of Student Financial Services, will send periodic e-mail reminders to the college community outlining the grant eligibility, and encouraging faculty and staff to refer students to apply. Ms. Denise Scalzo, Associate Director of Student Financial Services, is the Grants Manager for this campus program. Please refer students with short-term financial emergencies to Ms. Scalzo at your earliest convenience. Additional information can be found at [www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/scholarships).

- Please encourage our students to avail themselves of the valuable and free resources through the *QCC Single Stop Program*, located in the Library Building, Room 432A. Services

provided include (but are not limited to) financial benefits screening, financial counseling, legal assistance, tax preparation services and more. Additional information can be found on their website at [www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/singlestop).

- *Elections for the 2015-16 QCC Student Government* will be held March 26 through April 1. Please encourage students to consider standing for election, and of course to cast their ballots. The last day for students to pick up election packets (to run for office) is Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Completed election packets are due back to the Office of Student Activities by Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Faculty and Staff Honors and Accomplishments**

Good News! Our NCLEX for 2014 was 90.91%, the highest in CUNY and most of NYS. Hunter was 83.74% and LaGuardia 85.34%. The overall state average was 76.76%.

### **Opportunities for Faculty**

*The Assessment Institute* for QCC Faculty will be held this semester, over four successive Fridays—February 13, 20, and 27 and March 6—from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. in LB24. An invitation to the faculty was sent out on January 28, and the cohort is being formed. Interested faculty should ask their chairpersons to nominate them and forward the nominations to Dean Arthur Corradetti. Since its inception in fall 2014, 78 faculty members have participated in the institute.

### **Grant Opportunities for Faculty**

- *NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes* support faculty development programs in the humanities for school teachers and for college and university teachers. NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes may be as short as two weeks or as long as five weeks. Application Deadline: February 24th.
- *The CUNY Collaborative Incentive Research Grants Program (CIRG)* funds faculty research projects in their preliminary stages. The program encourages an interdisciplinary approach with a focus on participation from two or more CUNY campuses. The primary goal is to seed research that will become the basis of new external grant proposals. Proposals are due March 6<sup>th</sup>
- The goals of the *NSF Science of Learning: Collaborative Networks (SL-CN) Program* are to: advance fundamental knowledge about learning through integrated research; connect the research to specific scientific, technological, educational, and workforce challenges; and enable research communities to capitalize on new opportunities and discoveries. Proposals are due March 18th.
- *The Community College Collaborative Incentive Research Grants (C3IRG) Program* supports the collaborative research efforts of faculty at CUNY Community Colleges. The goal of the C3IRG Program is to promote research productivity and to enhance, through multi-campus or multi-disciplinary collaborations, the prestige and prominence of the University. The

C3IRG program is directed towards supporting and funding projects focusing on pedagogical research. Proposals are due April 2nd.

- *The NSF Directorate for Engineering (ENG) and the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE)*, have joined to support the Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering and Computer Science program. This program supports active long-term collaborative partnerships between K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, Computer and Information Science, and Mathematics (STEM) teachers and community college and university faculty and students. The Proposal Deadline is April 8th.
- *Corning Incorporated Foundation* grants for local education programs reflect a strong commitment to ensuring an informed citizenry and a skilled workforce. To that end, Foundation funding tends to target innovative and collaborative projects that enhance the teaching and learning of science and math curricula with the goal of improving student outcomes. Deadline is ongoing.

*For further information about these grant opportunities, please contact the QCC Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs, extension 5385.*

### **General Education Assessment Task Force Update**

*Faculty on The General Education Assessment Task Force* have prepared rubrics for a second QCC Educational Outcome: #1 – Communicate effectively through reading, writing, listening and speaking. (The rubric for Outcome #2 – Use analytical reasoning to identify issues or problems and evaluate evidence in order to make informed decisions – was completed during the June 2014 workshop.) Working with colleagues in their departments, Task Force members will collect appropriate student artifacts for the Spring 2015 assessment of students' achievement of these two Educational Outcomes and will prepare a report to be sent to the Academic Senate Committees on Assessment and Curriculum. The Task Force is considering mechanisms for efficient collection of artifacts. In addition, the Task Force is beginning its review of the whole set of Educational Outcomes and will be reaching out to the entire faculty for advice.

### **Retention Management Team**

Chaired by Dr. Karen Steele, Interim Vice President for Strategic Planning, Assessment, and Institutional Effectiveness, the Retention Management Team has worked over the last two years to identify and address obstacles to student retention and timely graduation. The team includes Frantz Alcindor (Director, Academy Advisement), Dean Laura Bruno (Admissions and Recruitment), Gina Capozzoli (Counseling), Dr. Arthur Corradetti (Dean, Accreditation, Assessment, and Institutional Effectiveness), Dr. Margot Edlin (Academic Literacy), Professor Kelly Ford (Business Department and Chair, Committee on Admissions), Ms. Doreen Fox-Herron, (Registrar-Graduation Audit), Dr. Brian Kerr (Assistant Dean, Student Affairs), Ms. Elisabeth Lackner (Director, Institutional Research and Assessment), Mr. George Muchita (Coordinator, Senior College Transfer), Ms. Constance Peluso (Director, Career Services), Professor Nina Sarkar (Business Department and Chair, Committee on Course and Standing), Ms. Elisabeth Scheiner (Registrar- Senior Adviser, Non-degree Students). Spring 2015 goals for the Retention Management Team

include: scrutiny of CUNYfirst and DegreeWorks features that can be used to advise and record student completion of High Impact Practices and other requirements; collaboration with the Roadmap group to develop and implement a timeline for standard, tailored outreach to students throughout their academic career; continued follow up of students on probation with outreach, workshops, and an expanded list of support activities; and obtaining more program-specific information about how our students who transfer (graduates and non-graduates) fare at the senior colleges.

### **Facilities Projects Update**

- The Science Building Courtyard Enclosure project is progressing with a planned completion date (barring unforeseen circumstances) of late Spring 2015. In early February, the Science Building first floor bathrooms (totally renovated and enlarged) will re-open. Later in February, the roof structure system will be installed signaling the final stages of the first phase of this complex project. By early spring, the new energy efficient windows will be installed on the building's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors, followed by restoration of faculty offices affected by the construction. Finally, the large first floor women's and men's restrooms that serve both the Science Building and Lecture Halls S-111 and S-112 have been totally renovated and will re-open in early February.
- A new silent study area: By late February, through the very generous support of our Student Government Association, a new silent study area will be opened in the Library. Formally an unused outdoor balcony on the Library's second floor, the newly created space will be available for up to 25 students, and will include amenities such as phone chargers in the study corrals. A special ceremony will be held to formally open the new space and commemorate the leadership of this year's SGA Executive Board who funded this project.

### **BTECH Update**

The Transition, Intervention, and Enrichment (TIE) subcommittee, which includes Professor Georgia McGill and Professor Franca Ferrari from Our Department of Speech and Theatre along with Dr. Margot Edlin, continues to develop the Indicators of Success and Readiness for the college courses with faculty and chairs input to refine the model. In addition, the TIE subcommittee is reviewing the current SAP-led mentoring program outcomes and beginning to plan future mentoring and college readiness programs such as ST 100. Planning is under way for future college service learning program involvement. QCC faculty member Professor Robert Keuper, along with BTECH faculty attended the first of several professional development SAP Technical Conferences in early January. Student Recruitment for the BTECH freshman class of Fall 15 is underway, with the opportunity for enrollment in BTECH overwhelmingly popular among families in Queens.

### **Upcoming Events**

Under the auspices of the Kupferberg holocaust Center and Archives, several events are planned:

- The film, *Hannah Arendt* will be shown at the KHRCA on Tuesday, February 10th. Hannah Arendt was a noted German-American philosopher who reported on the trial of the notorious Nazi war-criminal Adolf Eichmann. Her subsequent articles on the "banality of evil" generated then and now, a bitter public controversy.

- Dr. Elissa Bemporad, Assistant Professor of History at Queens College, will present a lecture: *Becoming Soviet Jews: The Bolshevik Experiment in Minsk* on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the KHRCA. Dr. Bemporad will explore ways in which many Jews acculturated to Soviet society in the 1920s and 1930s while remaining committed to older patterns of Jewish identity.

- The film *Ship of Fools* will be shown on Tuesday, March 10th at 1:00 p.m. at the KHRCA. The story chronicles the journey to leave Nazi Germany, and the interactions of passengers diverse in nationality, socio-economic status, political beliefs and jeopardy in the time of the Holocaust.

Other events include:

- The Business Department will host the Honorable Jenny Rivera, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, on February 25, 2015, at noon in room S-111. As a New Yorker with a similar background to many QCC students, Judge Rivera will share inspirational advice and encouragement with our students.

- Newly Tenured Faculty will be celebrated at a reception sponsored by the office of Academic Affairs on Tuesday, March 10, at 4:30 in the Oakland Dining Room. 24 colleagues from 14 academic departments will be honored as awardees of tenure/CCE. They are Mr. Sami Baig, Mr. Ka C. Cheng, Mr. Marius Jaskowski, Dr. Tirandai Hemraj-Benny, Dr. Francis Jordan, Dr. Amy Traver, Dr. Jannette Urciuoli, Professor Shele Bannon, Professor Kelly Ford, Dr. Urszula Golebiewska, Professor Michael Cesarano, Dr. Wendy Ford, Dr. Joanne Chang, Mr. Michael Ritchie, Ms. Tammi Rothman, Ms. Beata Carvajal, Ms. Venessa Singhroy, Mr. Robert Anderson, Mr. John Gilleaudeau, Ms. Rosanne Vogel, Mr. Umberto D'Arista, Ms. Susan Garcia, Mr. Lucian Makalanda, Mr. Cary Lane.