



**President's Report
to the
Academic Senate**

May 12, 2015

Enrollment Update

Summer and Fall Academic Advisement & Registration Update

- Academic advisement for students is well underway. Efforts to encourage continuing student advisement include postcards, email, social media, flat screens on campus, and phone outreach. Please encourage those students required to meet with an academic adviser to do so as soon as possible. New Student Advisement and Registration began on April 9th - the earliest we have ever started. Advisement is taking place across all Academies. Registration-ready students are being invited to advisement through Hobsons CRM technology.
- The Enrollment Management team activities are fully focused on reaching our new and continuing enrollment targets for Fall 2015. Applications for freshmen continue to be level, at QCC and University-wide. Therefore, Enrollment Management has put together a high-tech, high touch plan focused on conversion activities. Highlights include personalized emails from Admissions and the Academies, direct mail postcards, and a phone call campaign. Transfer admits and deposits appear healthy and the Transfer Evaluation team has put together a new process to assist our International students with the evaluation of their foreign credentials. To date, we have over 150 new freshmen and 120 new transfer direct admits.
- New this year in Advisement/Registration: New students will meet with their Academy Advisers, as usual, but they will not be registered into their classes by their advisers. Instead, they will proceed from advisement to a registration lab staffed by their peers (Tiger Advisers). There will be also be a Queensborough Academy Adviser on hand for any issues that may arise. Students will learn how to register themselves as new students, and in doing so, will have taken an important and exciting first step towards their success at QCC!
- The ***STEM Waivers*** is an initiative funded by the Mayor to encourage interest in STEM and degree completion. As of April 29, 2015, over nine hundred STEM waiver applications have been approved for Summer 2015. The students have been approved to enroll in 1024 STEM courses. Funding is limited and no additional applications will

be approved for Summer I, however, applications will continue to be approved for Summer II.

Starfish Update

The Starfish Early Alert system is open through the end of the semester. As of April 28, 416 faculty in 952 course sections have reached 7,055 students through Starfish. This yielded 21,359 flags, kudos and referrals. Sixty percent of the alerts were flags (for attendance or academic performance); 28% were kudos (primarily “keep up the good work”), and 12% were referrals. Of all referrals, a third have been for general tutoring in the Math Learning Center. A quarter of them have been for general tutoring at the Student Learning Center. Eighteen percent (18%) of referrals were directed to the Academic Literacy Center and 16% of referrals were directed to the Campus Writing Center.

Retention Management Team

- With representation from multiple administrative offices and two Academic Senate committees, the Retention Management Team requests and analyzes student performance data from a holistic perspective, and takes action or recommends changes to support increased student success. The Team is monitoring the effects of the changes implemented upon recommendation of the group last spring, namely tighter readmission criteria and elimination of the Academic Alert (Pre-probation) status. Preliminary data indicate the outreach program for students on probation, launched in Spring 2014 and expanded in Fall 2014, is having a positive impact on student retention. The Team is collaborating with the Enrollment Management Team and the Academics Strategic Planning group to develop a “roadmap” or targeted timeline for intentional action by students and outreach from administrative support services. The timeline starts before students enroll and tracks their progress beyond graduation.

Students in the News

- **2015 Student Government Elections have concluded** and the Student Government Executive Board for the coming academic year includes: Mr. Ricky Panayoty (President), Ms. Jodi-Ann Grant (Exec. Vice President), Ms. Shriromani Sukhwa (Admin. Vice President), Mariya Picache (Programming Vice President), Mr. Issac Ayisi (Treasurer), Ms. Maryam Hira (V.P. of Part-Time Students), Ms. Tulasha Thapa (V.P. of Evening Students), Mr. Michael Rawls, William Dennehy, Obafemi Crosland, and Ms. Theodota Terpsopolous (Student Senators). Congratulations to our newest student leaders!
- The national and highly competitive **Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship** is the largest private scholarship available to community college students in the country. Eligibility criteria are rigorous, and include sustained academic excellence, financial need, and a demonstrated record of leadership and service to others. Scholarship Recipients as CC graduates receive up to \$40K a year for 2-3 years to continue their studies at a senior college for their baccalaureate degrees. Of the millions of students enrolled in more than 1200 community colleges in the US, many hundreds of applications are submitted, and only 85 scholarships are awarded nationwide. Three Queensborough Community

College students were named Jack Kent Cooke Scholars! We are proud of and congratulate Kyle Chin How, Sylvia Salamone and Daysi Proano—as well as their faculty mentors in and outside of the classroom!

- For the second year, the CUNY Community College Prize essay winner for the **2015 David A. Garfinkel Essay Scholarship** is a Queensborough student, Joshua Cruz, who was mentored by Prof. Adam Leudtke. The topic this year: *How have the New York Courts addressed equal human rights for the LGBT community?* This contest is open to all students at CUNY & SUNY community colleges across the State. Joshua's essay was selected after careful review by members of the court staff at the NYS Court of Appeals, with a final selection made by Former Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye. Our congratulations to Joshua and his mentor. As an award winner, Joshua, his family and Dr. Leudtke have been invited to attend the May 5 Law Day ceremony in Albany at the NYS Court of Appeals.
- At the annual **NYC Queens Borough hearing** on April 15, 2015, two QCC students testified before Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, members of the CUNY Board of Trustees, Chancellor Milliken, and members of the Chancellery on programs that have contributed to their college success. Soha Farooqui, a member of the Barnes and Noble Impact Team spoke of her beneficial experiences as an intern in the Asian Social Justice Program of the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives as well as the QCC Art Gallery. Kyle Chin How testified about his experiences as a vice president of our student government, Secretary of the Steering committee of the University Student Senate, the 2015 NY Model State Senate, the QCC Mock Trial Team, and his establishment of a student organization, Talk Out Loud, that focuses on leadership development and communications skills to help students overcome fear of public speaking.
- QCC students Ms. Cassandra Gaubert, Mr. Sterio Nika, and Mr. Geovanni Mieses have been named **2014-2015 America Needs You (ANY) Fellowship Award winners**. Fellows earn up to \$2,500 over the course of two years in professional development grants, access 2 summer internships at prestigious companies and organizations, receive individualized support from a Mentor Coach, obtain in-kind services and products such as free business attire and subsidized test preparation, and network with leading industry professionals.
- On Friday, April 17th, eleven QCC students attended the 23rd Annual Statewide CSTEP Student Conference with 7 of them presenting research projects developed with their faculty mentors. Four of the QCC students won in their respective research categories. Congratulations to Mr. Stephan Smith, Ms. Elsa Rosario, Mr. Eddie Fernandez, and Ms. Joselin Vargas. Mr. Smith won 1st place in the category of Biology 1 as did Mr. Fernandez in category of Chemistry 1 and Ms. Vargas in the category of Medical Health & Wellness. Ms. Rosario came in 2nd place in the category of Biology 1. A special thank you to Ms. Francesca Berrouet, Director of CSTEP, and faculty members Dr. Paris Svoronos (Chemistry) and Dr. Sharon Lall-Ramnarine (Chemistry), Dr. Patricia

Schneider (Biological Sciences & Geology Dept.), and Dr. Sunil Dehipawala (Physics Dept.) for their work to prepare our students for their scholarly presentations.

- On May 11, the QCC of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society (Lambda Sigma) held its annual induction ceremony. In total, 122 students were inducted into this prestigious organization of bright academic scholars during the 2014-2015 academic year. Many thanks to both Dr. Emily Tai and Dr. Paris Svoronos for all of their hard work and support with this special group of students.

Financial Aid/Scholarships/Grants

- **CUNY Thomas Tam Scholarship** is available for all CUNY undergraduate students with an award of \$1,000. Please encourage eligible students to apply for this opportunity as the deadline date to apply is *Tuesday, June 30th*. Additional information and eligibility requirements can be found at www.aaari.info.
- **The 2015-2016 Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** is currently available on-line for students and families to begin the application process now. Although the priority filing deadline was Monday, April 20th, please encourage students who have not already completed it to do so *as soon as possible* to ensure timely processing and disbursement of their financial aid award packages for the upcoming 2015-2016 academic year.
- **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 completed the first year of the grant on December 31, 2014 and successfully awarded \$100,000 to Queensborough students in need. As of March 31, 2015 the college has awarded \$55,068 for the second year of the grant which runs through December 31, 2015. Ms. Veronica Lukas, Executive Director of Student Financial Services, will be sending 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, will serve as the Grants Manager for this campus initiative. 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.
- Please encourage our students to avail themselves of the valuable and free resources through the **QCC Single Stop Program**. A list of the 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.

Faculty Awards and Opportunities

- Congratulations to four colleagues who have been awarded the *Chancellor's Research Fellowships* for 2015-16: Dr. Caf Dowlah (Social Sciences/Economics), Dr. Urszula Golebiewska (Biological Sciences and Geology), Dr. Amy Traver (Social Sciences/Sociology) and Dr. Haishen Yao (Mathematics and Computer Science).
- Faculty interested in focusing on their research and scholarship during the summer can find support and collegiality in CETL's workshop "*Writing Your Article in 12 Weeks.*" Based on Princeton University professor Wendy Belcher's popular book of the same title which dedicates one chapter to each of the 12 weeks, this intensive workshop series will offer a structure as well as specific strategies for completing all the tasks required in writing a journal article—from forming an argument to identifying an appropriate journal to refining the article's structure to writing the abstract. The "12 weeks" of the CETL series will actually be 12 intensive days: every MWF from 10 – 4pm throughout the month of June. The June workshop is limited to 20 participants. Interested faculty should send a brief statement of commitment to all sessions of the series as well as an overview of the article/text to be written during the workshop to Jane E Hindman by May 11th, 2015. Accepted participants will be notified by May 18th. Questions should be directed to jhindman@qcc.cuny.edu or (718) 281-5082.

Queensborough's Assessment Institute

- Offered twice a year, the Assessment Institute for faculty supports faculty orientation and experience with assessment of student learning outcomes. As in four previous semesters, a cohort of faculty worked on course assessments over February and March. Twelve faculty members from various disciplines and departments, joined 78 other faculty from previous semesters, who have attended the institute, developed assessment plans, carried out the assessment, and reported findings and recommendations, for possible action by their departments. All the course assessment reports of these 90 faculty who have participated in the institute may be accessed at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/assessment/ai.html>. Our thanks to the faculty for their continuing supporting of the effort to assess student learning.

General Education Assessment Task Force

- The Task Force has submitted an interim report to the Senate Steering Committee, summarizing its activities during 2014-15 and outlining the work for the coming Academic Year. The Task Force is collecting artifacts for June 2015 scoring according to the rubrics developed for QCC Educational Outcomes #1, Communication, and #2, Analytical Reasoning. Artifacts are being submitted by 36 faculty members for 41 courses; every academic department is participating.
- In parallel, 48 faculty members who are participating in the High Impact Practices evaluation project, will be submitting artifacts from 33 HIP course sections. All of the artifacts in the HIPs project will be scored using the Analytical Reasoning rubric created by the General Education Assessment Task Force. Thus the College will have a significant sample of student work across curricula for an initial assessment of how well students are meeting two of our most critical Educational Outcomes.

General Education and Assessment

- Queensborough has been selected to attend the 25th Association for the American Colleges and Universities' (AAC&U) Institute on General Education and Assessment in Edmond, OK in June. Six faculty members will participate: Andrea Salis (OAA/HPED), Amy Traver (Social Sciences), Simran Kaur (Biology and Geological Sciences), Tanya Zhelezcheva (English), Kostas Stroumbakis (Math and Computer Science), and Franca Ferrari (Speech, Communication and Theatre Arts). These faculty are part of the grant-funded AAC&U campus-based research project- Advancing Underserved Student Success Through Faculty Intentionality in Problem-Centered Learning.

FY 16 Budget Update

- QCC's 2015–16 (FY 16) Resource Planning and Allocation process is now underway. Our Resource Planning and Allocation process includes the development and review of budget proposals consonant with the College's Strategic Plan and the University Master Plan. Budget proposals are developed at the department level and then advanced for consideration by the appropriate vice president. The process will include a review of the FY 16 budget plan by the Academic Senate Budget Advisory Committee, the Budget Subcommittee of the College Planning and Budget committee, and the College Advisory Planning Committee. These reviews are already taking place to improve the budget preparation and College approval process timeline to provide departments with preliminary operating budgets in early July, however, we still expect to receive a final FY 16 budget from the University later in the Summer after the City enacts its FY 16 budget.

BTECH Update

- After returning from the SAP University Alliance workshops on ERP, faculty from both the Business and Engineering Technology departments were eager to share their experiences. At the Business Department Advisory Committee meeting held in April, faculty joined the SAP head of the University Alliance program and Vice President Ward in discussing skills needed in the technology and software development fields. Business faculty, such as Anthony Kolios and Wendy Ford, who attended the workshop, were instrumental in explaining some of the software application modules our faculty will be able to incorporate into their technology, business, accounting, and marketing classes. In addition, development has begun on the week long summer session for 9th and 10th grade students. The objective of the session will be to combine reading, writing, research, marketing and programming skills in a competitive sales exercise using social media.

Upcoming Events

- Barbara Rothman, a former QCC faculty member will discuss her book "No Road For Me To Africa" in the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives on Thursday, May 14th at 6 pm. The book, a compilation of letters, postcards and notes translated from Yiddish and Polish, documents the life and correspondence of the Bermans, a Jewish family of tailors in Warsaw during the Second World War and relatives of Ms. Rothman.

- On Thursday, June 4th at 1 pm the Art Gallery will open an exhibit: ***New Mankind*** – a collection of outdoor sculptures donated by artist Wenzhi Zhang. The series, created by Ms. Zhang, an artist and professor at Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in China will become the foundation for the permanent outdoor display around the Gallery and Oakland Building.
- On Sunday, June 7, 2015 at 1 pm, the KHRCA will present a lecture, ***Refuge Denied: The St. Louis Passengers and the Holocaust***. The lecture will be conducted by Dr. Scott Miller from the United States Memorial Holocaust Museum. Dr. Miller will speak about the ordeal of the Jewish passengers on the refugee ship St. Louis. More than nine hundred Jewish refugees boarded the St. Louis in Hamburg, Germany, hoping to escape escalating oppression by the Nazi government, but most of them were turned away by other countries and forced to fall under the Nazi grip.
- ***Queensborough's 54th Commencement Ceremony*** will be held on Friday morning, May 29, 2015. Our Grand Marshal is Dr. Joe Culkin. The academic procession will be led by Dr. Paris Svoronos (Faculty marshal) and Ms. Bonnie Cook (HEO marshal). Dr. Adam Luedtke will lead the AA candidates, Dr. Chantal Damas will lead the AS candidates and Dr. Nina Sarkar will lead the AAS candidates. Faculty members and HEOs are encouraged to participate in this event, which is so very meaningful to our graduates and their families.