

**Bronx Community College**  
**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE COLLEGE SENATE - DECEMBER 2016**  
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As we wind down the Fall 2016 semester, I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays! This calendar year has been one with many ups and downs. At the end of this year, I encourage us all to celebrate the positive and remember that there is plenty for which we can be thankful. I wish safe travels to anyone who is leaving the City in December and January. Please rejoice, refresh, and recharge, so that we can end this semester strong and begin the Spring 2017 semester with vigor and excited energy. I hope to see you all at our holiday party on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, at 3pm in Colston Hall Lower Level.

- **SPRING 2017 ENROLLMENT:** As of Monday, December 5, 2016, 4,377 Continuing Students, 102 New Freshmen, 108 New Transfer, 129 Re-admit, and 6 Non-Degree students have been enrolled for the Spring 2017 semester. Our total headcount is down by 26% from this time last year. We will have to work together to increase our efforts and enrollment numbers for the Spring in order to hit our targets.

We also have a Spring 2017 recruitment target of 500 ASAP students. We have identified 500 eligible continuing students including some from FYS and RISE. Approximately 100 have attended information sessions. At this time, 18 new incoming students are already enrolled in ASAP. Currently, 73% of ASAP students have re-enrolled and 280 students will need to enroll in order meet 90 of the target enrollment.

- **MIDDLE STATES:** This week, from December 7- 9, 2016, a group of BCC faculty and staff are attending the 2016 Annual Conference of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in Philadelphia. This conference is in preparation for BCC's 2018-2019 accreditation review. Additional information about working committees will be disseminated in the upcoming weeks. I look forward to us all working together for successful re-accreditation.
- **PSC CONTRACT IMPLEMENTATION:** Efforts are underway to implement the provisions of the new contract. Instructional staff employees in all titles represented by the PSC are scheduled to receive their retroactive pay on the January 27, 2017, paycheck. For many, that same paycheck will also adjust to the April 20, 2016, salary rate.
- **ACADEMIC & STUDENT SUCCESS:** Efforts are underway to implement changes to Remediation/Placement policies mandated by CUNY over the past six months. This requires changes in areas including Academic Departments, Testing, IT, and Scheduling. While everyone will do their best to ensure a successful transition, there will be challenges over the next year. It is expected, though, that the changes will help more of our students persist and graduate. Perhaps the area most impacted by the changes is mathematics. For example, CUNY requires the development of an alternative non-elementary-algebra-intensive math pathway for some students who do need remediation. This development effort has begun.
- **AWARDS & RECOGNITION:** The Office of Veteran and Military Resources, in partnership with Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology, is the recipient of the Diversity Projects Development Fund sponsored by the University Advisory Council on Diversity. The program titled "Thank You for Your Service: Addressing the Military-Civilian Divide within the CUNY Community" will address a commonly underrepresented yet diverse demographic, the Veteran community. The grant is for \$4,000 and the program will take place during the Spring 2017 semester.

For the third year in a row, Bronx Community College was recognized by [www.GIJobs.com](http://www.GIJobs.com) as a military-friendly institution. In addition to this national designation, Bronx Community College also earned the Military Friendly Bronze Award for being a community college with outstanding programs and support for Veterans.

BCC has been selected for the final round of consideration to join the Aspen Institute's Community College Frontier Set. The Aspen review committee commended BCC on its "comprehensive reform agenda and hard work to improve student success." If selected, BCC would be granted up to \$630,000 over four years.

Five BCC faculty were selected for participation in the new cycle of the CUNY Faculty Fellowship Publication Program: Dr. Monique Guishard from the Social Sciences department; Prof. Ellen Maraneck from the Communication Arts and Sciences department; and Dr. Jillian Hess, Dr. Sharmila Mukherjee and Dr. Jonathan Scott, all from the English department. Congratulations go out to them.

- **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES & CONFERENCES:** Applications to the third round of the Chancellor's Research Fellowship Program are now being accepted. The deadline to apply is February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017. These prestigious fellowships are available to community college Assistant, Associate, and Full Professors who are tenured as of this academic year. Please see the November 28, 2016, BCC Broadcast and <http://www2.cuny.edu/academics/faculty-affairs/funding-opportunities/chancellors-research-fellowship-program/>.

The deadline for registration for our Community College Excellence Conference is December 18, 2016. The conference will take place on January 19, 2017, and we have presentation proposals from faculty and staff from BCC and several other CUNY colleges. A final agenda for the conference will be available soon. Please register at <https://goo.gl/mog4ew>.

In support of Mayor De Blasio's Equity & Excellence agenda for NYC schools, the Department of Education launched the CUNY Explorers Program to enable 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to visit college campuses and help students see themselves as "college bound." CUNY is a partner in this project. This academic year, CUNY will host approximately 21,000 7<sup>th</sup> graders from across the city. Over the next three years, this figure will grow to 80,000 students. Students will tour campuses and participate in academic, social, and cultural activities every Friday. Andre Christie serves as BCC Field Coordinator for this program. So far, 146 students have visited BCC from four schools.

- **CAMPUS PROGRAMMING:** New York State approved BCC as a private testing site for students/community residents who want to take the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), formerly the General Educational Diploma (GED), as a primary pathway to a New York High School Equivalency. The State will visit the campus on December 2, 2016. A broadcast will be sent to the college community once the process is completed. Fifteen new full-time faculty have been identified as potential FYS instructors and are scheduled for training in Spring 2017 for teaching in Fall 2017. We still need an additional ten instructors. Lastly, the third cohort of Get PSyCh'D student-peers has completed the two-semester training-practicum cycle and are ready to provide services.

The Post-Election Panel Discussion on U.S. Immigration Law and Policy was held on December 1, 2016. Panelist included Councilman Fernando Cabrera and Director of the Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrants Angela Fernandez. Thank you to all who participated in this important dialogue. Thank you also to Jessenia Paoli, BCC Associate Director for Judicial Affairs, for organizing and hosting this event.

During finals week, a Stress Free Zone will be established in room 306 of the Roscoe Brown Student Center. Green tea and half-hour sessions on calming activities will be offered the following dates and times:

*Wednesday, December 14, 2016, at 11 am & 4 pm*

*Thursday, December 15, 2016, at 11 am & 4 pm*

*Monday, December 19, 2016, at 11 am & 4 pm*

*Wednesday, December 21, 2016, at 11 am & 4 pm*

- **ADVANCEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS & EXTERNAL RELATIONS:** I am excited to share that BCC alumni, faculty, staff, and friends raised a record \$19,224 from 211 donors on Giving Tuesday! These contributions will support scholarships, student resources, and emergency assistance this year. BCC was also a leading campus in the CUNYTuesday effort, ranking 10<sup>th</sup> for the Most Raised and 4<sup>th</sup> for the Most Donors by the end of the day on November 29, 2016. There is still time to give! Giving Tuesday is the springboard for the Season of Giving and contributions are still being accepted at [bcc.cunytuesday.org](http://bcc.cunytuesday.org) through December 31, 2016. Donations between now and then will count towards the CUNY Campaign and go towards assisting more students in the Spring semester.
- Do not miss this year's production of Handel's Messiah taking place on Sunday, December 11, 2016 at 3p.m. in The Playhouse. The performance features the Bronx Opera Chorus and the Orchestra of the Bronx and includes special readings from members of the Bronx community and many of our local civic leaders. Tickets for the performance are \$15 in advance until 12pm on December 9, 2016, (\$20 at the door) and may be purchased at <https://www.bcc.cuny.edu/support-bcc/?p=sp-Handels-Messiah>. Children and BCC students with an I.D. are free with advanced registration. Please encourage your students to register and attend this special holiday event.
- Time is running out to submit your nomination for the CUNY-wide Productivity Award recognizing work to improve operations through increased productivity, improved services, streamlined processes, contained costs or enhanced revenue. Send your proposal with a brief summary of the accomplishment (include background, description, tangibles and next steps), along with your contact information, to [alyce.zimmerman@bcc.cuny.edu](mailto:alyce.zimmerman@bcc.cuny.edu) or [wanda.santiago@bcc.cuny.edu](mailto:wanda.santiago@bcc.cuny.edu) by December 15, 2016.