

Bronx Community College
PRESIDENT’S COMMUNITY REPORT – OCTOBER 2018
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Scottish philosopher and historian Thomas Carlyle once suggested, “Go as far as you can see; when you get there, you’ll be able to see further.” We have been moving forward as a college and now, at this halfway point in the semester, we are looking forward to what comes next. The year has been full of activity, particularly as we continue to prepare for Middle States. But October is a busy month for many other important reasons as well. It is throughout the month of October that we join the country in celebrating Hispanic Heritage, Breast Cancer Awareness, Emotional Wellness, Health Literacy, Global Diversity Awareness, Domestic Violence Awareness, National Learning and Development, and National Crime Prevention, among many other important interests.

With October nearly behind us, we look forward to November. Do not forget to vote in the November elections. Your voice matters. Encourage your students, families, friends, and loved ones of the importance of standing up and being counted. We are the authors of each of the chapters in history. Let’s write them.

We continue with our theme, “Reflecting on Our Community of Excellence” as we reflect on what we have built and how well we have built it. Our Middle States Accreditation visit by the team Chairperson is coming up in a few weeks on Thursday, November 15, 2018, and our full accreditation visit will take place from March 24-27, 2019. Between now and the November visit, we will be completing the initial Self-Study Report and provide it to the Chairperson. That Report is available to the entire campus community. At the end of this document, you will find additional details from Dean Ritze in the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.

Additionally, please remember to submit your proposals for this year’s Presidential Grant competition. I am looking for applications and proposals supporting student success and retention initiatives. Specifically, these proposals should focus on reaching the 35% graduation rate goal set forth in our Jubilee Challenge last Fall, or in retaining our students in and after the first year. If you have questions, please reach out to either Precious Nwankpa or Amirah Cousins in the Office of the President.

- **PROVOST/VICE PRESIDENT SEARCH:** Following the departure of Dr. Claudia Schrader, BCC will be undergoing a national competitive search process for a new Provost and Vice President for Academic Success. We hope a new Provost will begin on July 1, 2019. In consultation with the Chief Diversity Officer and Executive Director of Human Resources, I will develop and implement a recruitment plan, organize and charge a diverse and representative search committee, and select a candidate. We plan to utilize a search firm to aid in the process and are seeking to identify a firm that is familiar with urban community colleges and our specific needs. In November 2018, we anticipate having the recruitment plan ready for final review and the search committee members selected. In December 2018, we expect the search committee to begin organizing and preparing for the interview process to take place in January/February 2019. By March/April 2019, we hope the initial selection process will be complete and recommendations will be made on finalist candidates. In May/June, the college will begin the onboarding process, including presenting the selected candidate to the CUNY Board of Trustees. If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please feel free to reach out to Executive Director for Human Resources Marta Clark or Chief Diversity Officer Jessenia Paoli. We will continue to provide updates as the process moves forward and look forward to wide participation in the search.
- **ACADEMIC & STUDENT SUCCESS:** With Jessenia Paoli assuming the role of College Chief Diversity Officer, I am pleased to welcome our new Associate Director of Judicial Affairs, Judicial Officer Ana Molenaar. She will be located in Loew Hall, Room 416 and can be reached at extension 5630. Please join me in welcoming her aboard for this important role.

As part of our ongoing efforts to improve, the BCC Assessment Council and the Office of Academic Success encourage all faculty and staff to attend and present on their assessment practices, results, and improvement at the 2nd BCC Assessment Day, being held on Friday, December 7, 2018. Proposals are due to Dean Nancy Ritze at nancy.ritze@bcc.cuny.edu by Tuesday, November 6, 2018, and should contain the presenter name(s) and department(s), presentation title, and presentation description (in 300 words or less describing the assessment effort and presentation content).

On Friday, February 22, 2019, BCC will hold the 6th Annual Conference on Community College Excellence. Call for proposals will be sent before the end of October. If you have nominations for a keynote speaker or wish to volunteer to join the proposal peer review board, please email Mark Lennerton, Director of the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology.

- **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:** Thank you for your patience as we completed annual maintenance on the campus heating system to prepare for the change from cooling season to heating system. Thank you to the Power Plant team for successfully and efficiently getting the boilers up and running to distribute heat throughout the buildings. As you may be aware, we have encountered a larger-scale power issue that resulted in a power outage across seven buildings on Friday, October 12, 2018. Our talented electricians were able to restore three of the buildings and the remaining four are being serviced by a portable generator while repairs are being made. We anticipate possible further disruptions while the issue is being resolved.

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We are pleased to announce that the cafeteria now accepts the Bronco Card and those using Bronco Bucks to make purchases will receive a discount equal to sales tax. Also, the Bronco Card can be used to pay library fines/fees at the circulation desk.

- **GRANTS:** The U.S. Department of Education awarded BCC nearly \$1.4 million in Child Care Access Mean Parents in School (CCAMPIS) funding over the next four years to introduce on-campus childcare for students attending evening classes. BCC's accredited Early Childhood Center currently offers childcare and preschool programs to 100 children, ages 2-5, while their parents attend classes during the day. The federal CCAMPIS program will enable 160 preschoolers to enjoy that same professional childcare after hours. Once launched, Center hours will extend until 10 p.m. each Spring and Fall semester.

BNY Mellon awarded BCC a \$100,000 renewal grant in support of the Pre-ASAP STEM Program. This impactful recruitment strategy will attract more continuing students into ASAP, with a focus on having them pursue an ASAP STEM major. In the first year of implementation, ASAP went from 353 students enrolled in STEM majors in Spring 2017 to 547 in Fall 2017 and 601 in Spring 2018. With this renewed funding, BCC will continue to subsidize the full cost of the tuition/fees for summer and winter intersession STEM courses for continuing students who are eligible to enroll in ASAP in pursuit of a STEM degree. Year two goals include the recruitment of 100 new ASAP students into STEM majors during Spring 2019-Fall 2019.

The College was awarded \$98,170 by the US Department of Education to upgrade the technology in our Cybersecurity Computer Lab in Meister Hall, run by Dr. Syed "Rashid" Zaidi. Over the next two years, this grant will enable BCC faculty to enhance four advanced cybersecurity courses with new equipment and software. As part of the grant, BCC also will receive assistance from the National CyberWatch Center at Prince George's Community College in Maryland.

BCC was awarded a New York University Wagner Capstone team. From now through May 2019, BCC will welcome 5 NYU graduate students to research, engage, and analyze proposed uses and purposes for Gould Memorial Library. For more information, please contact Vice President Eddy Bayardelle. On Sunday, October 14, 2018, BCC once again participated in Open House New York with free tours of the Hall of Fame and Gould Memorial Library.

- **WORKFORCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Workforce is offering training to prepare for the Certified Recovery Peer Advocates (CRPA) exam and employment as Community Health Workers. CRPAs are non-clinical positions that assist in supporting people on a variety of pathways to recovery from multiple issues, including substance use and mental health illnesses. Information sessions are held every Monday from now until January 14, 2019. See http://site.bcc.cuny.edu/broadcasts/2018/10/BHOP_Training_Program.pdf for more information.
- **CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** BCC is participating in the 2nd Annual One Book, One Bronx Community College initiative. I invite you to join me in reading *Why the Cocks Fight: Dominicans, Haitians, and the Struggle for Hispaniola* by Michele Wucker. Assistant Professor Jillian Hess, Co-Chair of Bronx Reads, is hosting an Essay Contest (<https://bcc-cuny.digication.com/bronx-reads-why-the-cocks-fight/essay-contest>) and invites submissions submitted to her via email by Tuesday, November 6, 2018, at midnight. You will be hearing about additional activities relating to this book in the upcoming months. Thank you to everyone who has already agreed to incorporate the reading into their classrooms and programming.

Thank you to the members of Public Safety for organizing and hosting activities on Thursday, October 4, 2018, and Thursday, October 11, 2018. BCC "Went Pink!" for Breast Cancer Awareness and joined again to "Go Purple!" for Domestic Violence Awareness. These activities are very important in the Bronx. In 2017, 28,247 incidents of intimate partner domestic violence were reported across the Bronx. In the same year, 1,485 felony assaults by intimate partners in the Bronx were reported.

On Thursday, October 11, 2018, ASAP Men's Collective and the Male Empowerment Network (with BCC's Black Male Initiative) hosted the Honorable Jevin Hodge, a national youth advocate, the country's youngest African American Democratic elected official, and the first African American Millennial Vice Chairman of the Arizona Democratic Party.

On Thursday, October 18, 2018, DeDra Polite and Single Stop hosted the Legal Aid Mobile Justice Van on campus in front of Roscoe Brown to provide free legal advice to any student needing assistance with Family Court (child custody/support or divorce), Government Assistance (SSI/SSD, unemployment, HRA cases), and Housing (evictions and landlord-tenant issues).

On Friday, October 19, 2018, BCC held our 3rd Annual Haunted House in Gould Memorial Library with a record-breaking 800 participants – more than double the number in past years. Special thank you to Officer Ereliz Morales for leading.

On Tuesday, October 23, 2018, we welcomed Councilwoman Vanessa Gibson to A Leadership Conversation hosted by The Student Leadership Institute and WOMXN UP! This was an opportunity for students to engage successful individuals in a variety of fields on issues of career paths, social and political activism, leadership development, and professional branding.

BCC Middle States Self-Study Update, September 2018 “Reflecting on Our Community of Excellence”

BCC is engaged in a comprehensive Self-Study as part of the accreditation requirements of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). The process will culminate in a final report submitted to MSCHE and an evaluation team visit March 24-27, 2019. Formal action on BCC’s accreditation status will be taken at the June 2019 Executive Meeting of MSCHE.

The **PURPOSE OF THE SELF-STUDY** is to demonstrate BCC’s compliance with MSCHE Standards and requirements and to inform the development of our new Strategic Plan, in support of student learning and success and institution-wide improvement and renewal.

Self-Study and Evaluation Timeline

Fall 2018	Draft Self-Study disseminated, with multiple opportunities for campus-wide discussion/feedback
January 2019	Self-Study submitted to MSCHE
March 24-27, 2019	MSCHE Evaluation Team Visit to BCC
June 2019	MSCHE votes on BCC’s accreditation status

How you can participate in the Self-Study review and revision process

<p>1. Review & Comment on Self-Study Draft (Available for Review in OSSES)</p>	<p>Go directly to OSSES (https://wa01.bcc.cuny.edu/ OR BCC website > Quicklinks > OSSES), log in using your Bronco ID and password)</p> <p>Send Comments/Questions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jordi Getman-Eraso (Self-Study Co-Chair) Jordi.getman@bcc.cuny.edu ▪ Irene R. Delgado (Self-Study Co-Chair) Irene.delgado@bcc.cuny.edu ▪ Nancy Ritze (MSCHE Accreditation Liaison) nancy.ritze@bcc.cuny.edu
<p>2. Website with Self-Study, Survey, and Updates</p> <p>Beginning Monday, October 22, 2018, the newly-reimagined BCC website will include a section on our homepage entitled “Preparing for Middle States: Building a Community of Excellence to Assure a Quality Education.” This marketing campaign will inform and educate students, faculty and staff about the preparations for MSCHE and how they embody our five-year strategic plan. Here we will cover key areas such as BCC’s Mission, Vision, Values and Goals. Each post will have an area for feedback directly related to the specific topic covered in the post. Subsequently, we will record the most insightful feedback and incorporate those videos and quotes into future posts.</p> <p>In January, we will shift gears and base our content on learning outcomes and the creation of our next Strategic Plan.</p> <p>We will be supporting these efforts with a social media campaign entitled “Middle States Mondays” to support and extend the reach of our MSCHE awareness campaign. “Getting ready for our review by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education is a campus-wide effort by every member of the BCC family,” says President Isekenegebe. “Each of us has something to contribute to the successful evaluation of our community of excellence.”</p> <p>You can start contributing right now by viewing BCC’s self-study and provide your feedback on the survey.</p> <p>Be sure to visit the MSCHE section of our homepage. It will tell you all you need to know to prepare for the upcoming visit by our MSCHE Evaluation Team. Interesting information and engaging questions will be posted regularly to make your unique and special voice part of the process.</p>	

Building a Community of Excellence

MISSION BCC serves students of diverse backgrounds, preparations and aspirations by providing them with an education that is both broad in scope and rigorous in its standards. We offer students access to academic preparation that provides them with the foundation and tools for success in their educational and/or professional plans and instills in them the value of informed and engaged citizenship and service to their communities.

VISION BCC will effectively invest in each student's success by engaging with them in an integrative and supportive environment that facilitates the development and achievement of their educational and career goals. Graduates will be prepared to understand, thrive in, and contribute to a 21st-century global community marked by diversity, change, and expanded opportunities for lifelong learning and growth.

VALUES Respect – Integrity – Engagement – Excellence – Empowerment

GOALS

1. Build a Community of Excellence
2. Empower Students to Succeed
3. Deepen Student Learning
4. Develop World Citizens
5. Cultivate a 21st Century Curriculum
6. Enhance the Campus Environment
7. Promote a Reputation for Excellence

MSCHE Standards for Accreditation

Standard I: Mission and Goals. The institution's mission defines its purpose within the context of higher education, the students it serves, and what it intends to accomplish. The institution's stated goals are clearly linked to its mission and specify how the institution fulfills its mission.

Standard II: Ethics and Integrity. Ethics and integrity are central, indispensable, and defining hallmarks of effective higher education institutions. In all activities, whether internal or external, an institution must be faithful to its mission, honor its contracts and commitments, adhere to its policies, and represent itself truthfully.

Standard III: Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience. An institution provides students with learning experiences that are characterized by rigor and coherence of all program, certificate, and degree levels, regardless of instructional modality. All learning experiences, regardless of modality, program pace/schedule, level, and setting are consistent with higher education expectations.

Standard IV: Support of the Student Experience: Across all educational experiences, settings, levels, and instructional modalities, the institution recruits and admits students whose interests, abilities, experiences, and goals are congruent with its mission and educational offerings. The institution commits to student retention, persistence, completion, and success through a coherent and effective support system sustained by qualified professionals, which enhances the quality of the learning environment, contributes to the educational experience, and fosters student success.

Standard V: Educational Effectiveness Assessment. Assessment of student learning demonstrates that the institution's students have accomplished educational goals consistent with their programs of study, degree level, the institution's mission, and appropriate expectations for institutions of higher education.

Standard VI: Planning, Resources and Institutional Improvement. The institution's planning processes, resources, and structures are aligned with each other and are sufficient to fulfill its mission and goals, to continuously assess and improve its programs and services, and to respond effectively to opportunities and challenges

Standard VII: Governance Leadership and Administration. The institution is governed & administered in a manner that allows it to realize its stated mission & goals in a way that effectively benefits the institution, its students, & the other constituencies it serves. Even when supported by or affiliated with governmental, corporate, religious, educational system, or other unaccredited organizations, the institution has education as its primary purposed, & it operates as an academic institution with appropriate autonomy.