

Bronx Community College
PRESIDENT' S COMMUNITY REPORT – DECEMBER 2022
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It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through this academic year. I know it has been a challenging semester. The heating situation and associated conditions in our classrooms and offices have impacted our campus climate. This has also affected the ability of our students to learn and the faculty and staff to perform their jobs effectively. Again, I hear all of your concerns. I am asking all to come together as one campus and work toward resolving these challenges in the interest of our students. While the old boilers are up and running, the temporary boiler is expected to be “tied in” to the system soon. Currently, PPS staff is working building by building to identify the heat related issues and resolve them accordingly.

I am grateful and appreciative to all of the faculty and staff who are supporting our students to the end goal of completing the fall semester and the academic year.

PERSONNEL CHANGE: As I communicated to the college community yesterday, I have accepted the resignation of Kay Ellis, Vice President for Finance and Administration. Please join me in thanking Kay for her dedicated service to the college and best wishes for retirement. I am working with the Chancellery to name an interim VP for Administration and Finance as soon as possible.

GIVING TUESDAY: Thanks to the generosity and commitment of our faculty, staff, retirees, alumni and friends, BCC's Giving Tuesday campaign exceeded its goal and raised \$103,966.00 to help students by providing scholarships, emergency aid, and funds for necessities such as textbooks, housing, transportation, food and more. Every contribution not only enables individual students stay in school but enhances the vitality of our community both on and off campus. Many thanks to all who contributed to making Giving Tuesday 2022 a resounding success and giving BCC the #3 spot among the CUNY community colleges and #12 among all CUNY colleges to date. If you were unable to make your donation prior to the close of Giving Tuesday, you can still do so at [Give to Bronx Community College | #CUNYTUESDAY 2022](#). Please consider joining your colleagues, friends, and students by contributing today.

WINTER AND SPRING REGISTRATION: Registration is underway and ongoing for the Winter session and Spring 2023 semester. Faculty and staff, please advise and encourage your students to register in advance. If they have any challenges, please direct them to their advisors or to the Registrar's Office. They are happy to help! The Registrar's office reports that as of December 5th we currently have 2,888 students enrolled in our various enrollment categories. This number is trending slightly ahead of last year's headcount at this time. Our Spring 2023 FTE Headcount remains slightly down, however, we are ahead in our incoming freshmen, transfer, and permit-in populations.

The Integrated Communication Center will begin making strategic calls to these various categories of students and link them with the appropriate advising staff. We will also be pulling together a special team to focus on readmits, which are still trending downward compared to last year at this time.

CONGRATULATIONS: The Business and Information Systems Department was recently commended by its accreditor, ACBSP, for best practices in student learning outcomes assessment. Congratulations to the faculty of the BIS Department for recognition of their exceptional work.

I am also happy to announce that BCC's Early Childhood Center has received a new five-year term of accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Please join me in congratulating Jitinder and her dedicated team of teachers for earning the mark of quality.

2023 C3E CONFERENCE: BCC will be holding its Tenth Annual Conference on Community College Excellence, on Friday, February 17, 2023. The conference will focus on "Re-engaging the Great Disengagement" with thematic tracks on: Effective Teaching and Learning Environments, Ensuring Student Success, and Extending Diversity & Inclusion: Building for Trust, Belonging and Engagement. It is not too late to submit proposals, but act fast, as the submission deadline is Monday, January 9, 2023. You can find more information on the 2023 conference here: [BCC's 10th Annual Conference on Community College Excellence \(C3E\) - The 2023 Conference \(digication.com\)](https://www.digication.com/bcc-10th-annual-conference-on-community-college-excellence-c3e-2023).

GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS: The NYC School Bus Umbrella Services (NYCSBUS) received \$8 million from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) for the project "Electrifying School Buses in the Bronx and Beyond". As the exclusive educational partner for this grant, Bronx Community College will receive \$1.66 million dollars to develop an electric bus maintenance curriculum for mechanics and auto technicians, as well as a short course on electric vehicle safety protocols for drivers and dispatchers and possibly first responders.

Professor Amowitz's Design Portfolio class and BCC's Blackstone LaunchPad are collaborating to provide students with real-life experience working with clients to create a brand identity. Currently, the class is working with Kiran Khalid to learn about her business, *Our Universe* and to help develop her brand.

As part of the process, students presented first drafts of the logos for customer feedback. Then, Kiran was presented with final versions of the logos in addition to other branding components, including letterhead, envelopes, and business cards on November 28th. The chosen brand identity will be announced on December 12th. The winning brand identity will receive \$500 from BCC's Blackstone LaunchPad program.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION: The Bronx Community College Foundation is pleased to invite you to a special holiday performance of Handel's Messiah. Join us on **Sunday, December 11, 2022** at 3:00 p.m., to hear the Bronx Opera Chorus, the Orchestra of the Bronx, and readings from civic and community leaders in the Bronx. The performance is open to the public so bring family and friends to enjoy the show.

As we prepare for the holidays, it is also important to keep in mind the rules surrounding the acceptance of gifts. Please be reminded that CUNY's Conflicts of Interest Policy and the New York State Public Officers Law prohibit the acceptance of gifts of more than nominal value from interested sources. Accordingly, as a CUNY employee you may not solicit or accept such gifts, either directly or indirectly, from any interested source, regardless of whether the gift was intended to influence or reward you. Please reach out to BCC Campus Ethics Officer Susan Fiore susan.fiore@bcc.cuny.edu for assistance with questions.

Please note that the college is closed on Friday, December 23rd through Monday, December 26th 2022 and Friday December 30th through Sunday, January 1st, 2023.

I wish everyone a safe, peaceful and joyful holiday season. I hope that with a respite and the company of family, friends and loved ones, we will be ready to return to the work of solving our challenges, working together, and continuing to serve our students.