

**Bronx Community College**  
**PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO THE COLLEGE SENATE – MARCH 2017**  
*Thomas A. Isekenegbe, Ph.D.*

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With the Spring 2017 semester well underway, I want to say thank you to each of you for the work you have done and will continue to do this far to move our students closer towards their goals. In line with that dedication, Bronx Community College will be participating in the CUNY Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) Campus Climate Assessment, conducted in conjunction with Cambridge Hill Partners (a University-sponsored consultant). As a part of this assessment, focus groups will be convened on campus to gather feedback from students, faculty, and staff, on their experiences at BCC. We look forward to finding new ways to improve the campus environment for all those who work and learn here.

- **SPRING 2017 ENROLLMENT:** BCC surpassed its Spring 2017 targets. We had a projected headcount of 10,812 with 7,558 FTEs and an actual headcount of 11,088 and 7,809 FTEs. Thank you to all who participated in critical recruitment, enrollment, and retention efforts!
- **ACADEMIC SUCCESS:** The official Academic Advisement Period for the Summer 2017 Sessions and Fall 2017 semester is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> and continue through Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Registration is available beginning the week of March 27<sup>th</sup> and students will be assigned enrollment appointments through April 3<sup>rd</sup> based on their number of credits. A more detailed BCC Broadcast will be released soon. The Early Academic Progress Report period has ended. Thank you to all faculty who complied with the request to submit valuable information on student progress.

The First Annual Academic Services Symposium was a success. We had approximate 78 faculty and staff in attendance who participated in vibrant discussions about academic advisement. A formal report and Symposium assessment is being prepared and will be disseminated. Thank you all for who supported and participated. The Support Services Two-Day Symposium is taking place Thursday, March 23, 2017, and Friday, March 24, 2017, and is focusing on how to engage and get buy-in from faculty, staff, and students. Please feel free to attend, if you are available. Contact the Office of Academic Affairs for more information. Thank you to all who supported and participated in the recent Transfer Fair. There was a great turn out of students during both the afternoon and evening events.

- **60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY:** This year, we are proud to celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> year of providing affordable and quality educational programming to our community as a part of the CUNY family. While we celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, we will use this opportunity to reflect on the past and plan for the future. On April 5, 2017, at 1:30pm, the New York City Council will be honoring Bronx Community College for the College’s 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Ceremony honoring the College will take place on the Steps of City Hall and will feature an official Proclamation presented to President Isekenegbe and members of the College Community for 60 years of excellence and service to the City of New York. Please attend if you are available. If you are unavailable, don’t worry! A campus kick-off is being planned to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in April. Details will be sent in a BCC Broadcast soon.
- **MIDDLE STATES:** BCC is moving forward with planning for our accreditation MSCHE Self-Study and Evaluation visit in 2018-19. This is our opportunity to demonstrate BCC’s compliance with all standards and requirements for accreditation as well as an occasion for institutional reflection and improvement. A draft of our Self-Study Design has been submitted to our Middle States Liaison for review. Thank you for the hard work thus far of our Steering Committee Members: Jordi Getman-Eraso (Co-Chair), Irene R. Delgado (Co-Chair), Simone Rodriguez-Dorestant, Manny Lopez, Alexander Ott, Robert Beuka, Laroi Lawton, Paul Jaijairam, Nancy Ritze, Shylaja Akaraju, Jessenia Paoli, Gina Galligan, and Angela Wambugu Cobb.
- **UPCOMING CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** The second installment of the US Immigration Law and Policy Series took place on February 21<sup>st</sup> with close to 200 students, faculty, and staff in attendance. The third installment took place on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. This was a smaller workshop for faculty and staff with approximately 20 in attendance. We will be screening the documentary “13<sup>th</sup>” on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 12pm in GML Auditorium with a panel discussion to follow. Please join – no registration is necessary.

Student elections for the Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee will be taking place simultaneously with SGA elections. Interested students should be encouraged to submit a nomination through the Office of Student Life.

- **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:** All Requisitions for this fiscal year should be submitted as soon as possible to ensure delivery or completion of the efforts by the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Business Office recently hosted an information session for Department Chairs and COAs to review Procurement, Budget and CUNYFirst. The sessions were well attended and the Business Office welcomes all feedback and suggestions for upcoming events. Additional trainings on travel and expense will be hosted by Carmen Perez of Accounts Payable in Meister Hall G02 from 10am-noon on Wednesday, March 22, 2017, and Wednesday, March 29, 2017.

The annual internal control review is underway as required by the Comptroller's Office. As part of this process, the college assesses over 700 elements in fourteen key areas including cash receipts, billing and receivables, expenditures and payables and inventory management procedures. This process is an important part of our internal control and financial integrity program.

With your help, we will again be participating in Daylight Hour which will be held June 16<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm to 1:00pm. Daylight Hour is an annual social media campaign organized by the Building Energy Exchange to raise awareness about using natural daylight in lieu of electric lighting in offices. Launched in 2014, this simple and engaging campaign asks participating offices to turn off their lights in day-lit spaces for one hour on the Friday before the summer solstice.

On Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, New York City braced for twenty-plus inches of snowfall. This was anticipated to be the worst March blizzard in New York City history since 1888. This followed the snow storm that closed all CUNY schools on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Once again, our exceptional PPS team coordinated in advance of the inclement weather and responded to both large snowstorms. They did an amazing job of ensuring the campus was clean and clear for pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Because of their outstanding work, our campus closures were kept to the absolute minimum and classes were able to resume quickly. Please join me in thanking them.

- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Communications and Marketing is soliciting brief items for the biweekly edition of On Campus, BCC's electronic newsletter. Please email items—along with any high resolution photos—to either Michael Quinn at Michael.Quinn@bcc.cuny.edu or Diane Weathers at Diane.Weathers@bcc.cuny.edu.

A Screening of "TIME: The Kalief Browder Story" was held on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> in GML Auditorium. The event was coordinated by the Office of Development in conjunction with several members of the campus community and Spike TV and Viacom. Over 500 people were in attendance to view the first 2 episodes of the 6-part documentary that showcases the injustices the former BCC student faced when he was imprisoned for 3-years without ever being convicted of a crime. The documentary airs every Wednesday evening on through April 5<sup>th</sup>.

- **CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** The second installment of the US Immigration Law and Policy Series took place on February 21<sup>st</sup> with close to 200 students, faculty, and staff in attendance. The third installment took place on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. This was a smaller workshop for faculty and staff with approximately 20 in attendance. We will be screening the documentary "13<sup>th</sup>" on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 12pm in GML Auditorium with a panel discussion to follow. Please join – no registration is necessary. Student elections for the Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee will be taking place simultaneously with SGA elections. Interested students should be encouraged to submit a nomination through the Office of Student Life.

BCC's 57<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremony will be on Friday, June 2, 2017, on Ohio Field. 2,200 students are estimated to be eligible to participate. Approximately 60 volunteers will be needed during this ceremony to provide assistance with providing directions, distributing programs, assisting family and friends of graduates finding seats, assisting guests with special needs, and manning water stations. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Manny Lopez or Sanjay Ramdath.

The 39<sup>th</sup> Roscoe C. Brown - Run the Bronx will be held on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. The event includes 10k and 5k runs, and a 2 mile walk. It draws over 1,500 participants from across the tristate area and beyond. This signature BCC event encourages healthy living in the borough that ranks #62 in health indicators among all 62 counties in the State of New York. We can help change that. Participate this year's Run the Bronx by signing up to run, walk, volunteer, or donate support. Registration is only \$25 through April 29<sup>th</sup> and FREE for K-12, BCC, and all CUNY students. And once again, the department with the highest number of Run the Bronx participants will be awarded the President's Cup -- which comes with a full year of bragging rights. Members of the BCC family are encouraged to sign up and join the BCC Dream Team today. Registration is available on the college homepage, otherwise, you contact Robert Whelan in the Development Department at ext. 5162.