

**BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY
APRIL 29, 2016**

I hope that everyone is having a good semester. With the spring break almost over, we are coming close to the end of the semester. With the warm weather on the horizon, let's help our students stay focused and finish the semester in good standing.

As we help our students finish the spring semester it is not too early to encourage them to register for the Summer and Fall 2016 semesters. Registration is open for both semesters.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The FY2017 state enacted budget provides \$251.8 million for the community colleges, an increase of \$17.6 million from the FY2016 level.

- Per FTE student base aid increases by \$100 to \$2,697. This increase generates \$8.3 million. Enrollment increases generate an additional \$9.3 million.
- ASAP and childcare funding are restored to FY2016 levels.
- An additional \$225,000 is provided for College Discovery.
- An additional \$500,000 is provided for a community schools grant. The goal of the grant is to bring healthcare to campuses, assist students with transportation, provide additional resources for child/elder care, and augment existing academic and career development supports in order to improve retention and graduation rates.

BCC Impact

- The base allocation per student will increase by \$100 to \$2,697 (If we put it into this year's perspective it would be an additional \$805,200 (Current FTE of 8,052 x \$100).
- ASAP funding was restored. (We received \$1,150,121 in FY16).
- Childcare funding was restored – We received \$164,532 from the State in FY15).
- College Discovery was increased for the University (We actually lost some of our prior year allocation (\$75,000) because they had overfunded us last year.
- An additional \$500,000 was provided for the Community School Grant (We already received an award from this program).

Capital Funding

The \$7 million capital funding priority for FY 2017 for the Student Success Center One Stop looks very promising. The plan is to consolidate the Admissions, Registrar, Financial Aid and Bursar offices in the old library space in Meister Hall.

We were able to secure \$3.5 million in grants from our various Bronx elected officials with New York State making up the balance. This project is in the conceptual and design phase with an expected completion date of August 2018.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SUCCESS

Finals are scheduled for May 22-28, 2016 and should be given in accordance with the calendar.

Registration for the Summer and Fall semesters began earlier this year; we have made a more concerted effort to reach out to the students, through various media and outreach. The departments themselves have been a huge asset in connecting with the students as well as the student success coaches. In order to expand our services to students and increase enrollment, the Childcare center will be offering Saturday services starting in the Fall.

The AAS in Radiologic Technology program had a two-day external review visit by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). The initial feedback is that we successfully met all standards and we are currently awaiting the final report.

The ASAP Executive Committee met on April 11th to discuss progress and issues. The BCC ASAP website is now live and can be found here: <http://asap.bcc.cuny.edu/>. As part of an ongoing advertising campaign to publicize our College and ASAP, a subway campaign was launched on April 18th.

Efforts are underway to recruit the leadership team for Academic and Student Success. The Vice President search is underway; the committee began reviewing applications and identifying candidates to interview. The Associate Dean searches are closed and the committees are in the process of reviewing resumes.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The long awaited quad is in the final stages of construction with the sidewalks currently being poured and the trees scheduled to arrive and be planted over the next few weeks. As we complete this phase and look forward to walking the quad and also being able to use Wi-Fi in the quad. The next two phases of the Campus Service Upgrade are about to begin.

This phase of the comprehensive multi-year Campus-wide Utilities Upgrade project implements the replacement of distribution piping to the buildings on the south and east ends of campus. It facilitates the distribution of hot and chilled water from the new plant and introduces new electrical and communications conduits to the following buildings:

- Bliss Hall, New Hall, Loew Annex, Alumni Gym, Loew Hall, Gould Hall and the New Con Edison Utility building.

The contractor began on April 21st in order to take advantage of spring break and to stay on schedule for all work that needs to be completed before the next heating season. The following dates are tentative and will be confirmed once the construction permit is received.

1. Installation of Construction Fence

Start date: Thursday, April 21st

Completion date: Monday, April 25th

Impacts:

- Should be minimal to none. There will be a possible minor detour or delay in pedestrian or vehicular traffic while the fence is being installed.

2. Closure of the Roadway between Nichols and Energy Plant

Start date: Monday, April 25th

Estimated completion date: Friday, July 15th

Impacts:

- There will not be a loop around the Selective Energy Plant. Traffic will be two way running along south road that goes past Sage, Guggenheim and the rear of Bliss Hall.
- No pedestrian impacts for students, faculty and staff.
- Public Safety and PPS will have access as required.

3. Closure of Loew Parking Lot

Start date: Monday, April 25th

Estimated completion date: Saturday, August 27th

Impacts:

- All regular entry and exit to Loew Hall will be by the north entrance only. The south entrance (by Admissions) will be closed for all but emergency egress use.
- Staff will need to park further west on campus or in Patterson Parking Lot across Hall of Fame Terrace.
- Eight (8) spots at the north end of the lot will remain for Public Safety vehicles. The majority of vehicles in this lot (Public Safety) will use the Patterson Lot.

Bronx Community College has received the Executive Vice Chancellor award for the automation and process improvement related to: Duplicating Requests, Parking Decal Distribution, and the Dashboard for Academic Advisors. While these efforts are the work of many and our thanks goes out to all the staff, special recognition and commendation goes to: Deira Pereyra, Colleen Simpson, David Ling and Derrik Le.

Bronx Community College was one of the first to adopt the Print Smart program which began in the summer of 2015 with a campus-wide survey of copier use and space. The purpose of Print Smart program is to provide the College with cost effective and eco-conscious shared local copy, fax and scanning capabilities. In most cases, each floor of each campus building has one or two devices. This program enables the College to provide right scaled devices and improved service and maintenance. The Campus has eliminated 805 copiers and currently has 242 copiers on campus, with the goal of further reducing copiers over the next year. The ratio of employees to copiers has gone from 1:1.5 to 5:1 and our goal is 6:1. In addition to saving space and improving service and facilitating moving to paperless processing, BCC is saving in toner and paper costs. BCC congratulates Sharon Luckie on the launch of the program and with Sharon's retirement, the program administration will now be located in the Duplicating Department with Frank Giglio.

BCC is one of four vanguard CUNY colleges to promote early adoption of the virtual desktop infrastructure which provides faculty and students with access, from any device or location, to specialized analytical software including SPSS, SAS, Mathematica, and Maplesoft. The CUNY virtual desktop can be accessed at www.cuny.edu/virtualdesktop.

Campus Safety and Duplicating will be teaming up to host campus-wide Spring Shred Days. This program is an excellent way to celebrate spring, and safely discard papers and files. Secure shredding containers will be provided and a shredding vehicle will be brought onsite. Stay tuned for event dates.

The annual employee service awards will be held on May 20th. This special day allows us to recognize employees reaching service milestones between 5 to 50 years! Thank you all for your service and the work you do each day. The future truly is reached by working together one day at a time.

ADVANCEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS & EXTERNAL RELATIONS

On Saturday, May 7th the 38th annual **Run the Bronx**, will be held here at BCC. Co-founded by former BCC President and Tuskegee airman, Roscoe Brown, Jr., the Run has become a critically important event for BCC and the Bronx community. In the county that has the highest rates of obesity, diabetes and heart disease in the State, the Run promotes healthy living through 10k & 5k runs, a 2 mile walk and free wellness education and screenings from health partners. This year, I am challenging every department to “walk the walk” and participate! The department with the highest number of participants (runners, walkers and/or volunteers) will receive The President’s Cup. Register today at <http://www.bcc.cuny.edu/Run-the-Bronx/#degTop>

On Wednesday, June 8th the BCC Foundation will be hosting its **Gala – Building the American Dream One Student at a Time**. The Gala will honor our scholarship partners and celebrate my inaugural year at the College. It will also raise scholarship support to endow the *Kalief Browder Memorial Scholarship* in honor of the BCC student whose Rikers Island incarceration at age 16 for three years (two of them in solitary confinement) for a minor offense he didn’t commit, garnered national attention and a clamor for criminal justice reforms. This scholarship will be awarded to BCC students, who like Kalief, are working hard to transform their lives after incarceration. I encourage you to join us for this special event and help us reach our goals. Register today at <http://www.bcc.cuny.edu/gala/>. Early bird ticket prices end Monday, May 2nd.

COMMENCEMENT

This is an exciting time of year and as we wind down this semester, I look forward to seeing everyone at the 56th Commencement Exercises scheduled for Friday, June 3, 2016 to celebrate our students. Additional Commencement information can be found here: <http://www.bcc.cuny.edu/Commencement/>

I wish everyone a happy spring break. I hope you use the break to charge your batteries for the fourth quarter of the Spring 2016 semester.

Best Wishes,



Thomas A. Isekenegbe, Ph.D.
President