

Bronx Community College
PRESIDENT’S COMMUNITY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2018
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Welcome back for the Spring 2018 semester! So many activities kicked the semester off in excellent fashion. Thank you to all who participated in the Spring 2018 Faculty and Staff Convocation and in BCC’s Fifth Annual Conference on Community College Excellence. New Student Orientation activities were also a success. This time last year, we were celebrating our 60th year while reflecting on the past and planning for the future. Among other activities, this included preparation for our upcoming Middle States Self-Study, development of a new Academic Master Plan, and honoring our distinguished alumni. This semester, we continue our plans for improvement with the “35x65” Challenge and I could not be more excited. Please join me in congratulating our first prize winner, Betania Lopez, and second prize winner, Robert McGee, for their entries in the “35x65” logo design contest. The new logo will be unveiled at the February 2018 Senate Meeting.

- **SPRING 2018 ENROLLMENT:** As of February 13, 2018, BCC had exceeded our Spring 2018 CUNY Enrollment Projections for FTE and nearly met the projections for Total College Headcount. With a projected total headcount of 11,075 and FTE of 7,820, our actual headcount was 10,812 and FTE of 7,857. We fell short of projections for Continuing Students, with a projection of 8,316 and an actual enrollment of 7,591 (down 820 from Spring 2017). We fell short of projections for Readmit students with projections of 578 and actual enrollment of 555 (up 78 from Spring 2017). We exceeded our projections for New Freshmen Students by 21, with actual enrollment of 996 (up 57 from Spring 2017). And we fell short of projections for New Transfer Students by 62, with actual enrollment of 742 (up 7 from Spring 2017). Thank you to all who participated in critical recruitment, enrollment, and retention efforts! We will be seeking new and innovative ways to attract and retain our students in an effort to see improvement in enrollment for the Fall 2018 semester and beyond.
- **MIDDLE STATES:** BCC continues our work in preparation for the scheduled 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. Thank you again to the Steering Committee, members of the 8 MSCHE Standards committees, and all who are participating in this effort. It will take the entire college working together to complete the research needed to draft the various sections of our BCC Self-Study Report, which will be submitted in 2018-19. We expect to provide a variety of opportunities for all BCC faculty, students and staff to engage in the self-study process.
- **CHANGES TO AUXILIARY ENTERPRISES:** In December, The CUNY Board of Trustees approved a series of reforms, including the adoption of Revised Auxiliary Corporation Guidelines and a Model Memorandum of Agreement. Effective January 1, 2018, CUNY’s All Funds Expense Matrix became effective for use across all CUNY institutions. This matrix provides certain restrictions on the spending in Tax Levy, Indirect Cost Recoveries, Auxiliary Enterprise Corporations, College Foundations, and All Other Non-Tax Levy funds. With the new guidelines, BCC will continue to update our practices and provisions for Auxiliary and the Bursar’s Office. All relevant documents are posted on the BCC website in the Administration & Finance Quick Links under “Presentations”. You will also soon see webpages for Auxiliary and BCC, Inc. containing governance documents, minutes, board member information, and other relevant information. Thank you again for your patience as we develop and align our practices to implement these Board changes.
- **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:** There are many changes to the way we do business here at BCC. First, we are in the final stages of CUNY’s ongoing Payroll Interface Project. This will connect BCC payroll with the CUNY and NYC systems to improve the service you receive. Second, Barnes and Nobles will be closing on March 2, 2018, and BCC will begin participating in the virtual bookstore, Akademos. Plans are underway to open the campus service center in the bookstore space in early summer. Next, we are now utilizing E-verify in our Department of Human Resources. This tool will allow the College to verify eligibility to work for new hires more quickly. The new Events and Conference Support Unit was established and welcomes two new Events Coordinators to our campus community – Barbara Thomson and Stephanie Polo.
- **RECOGNITION:** Please join me in congratulating Ms. Jitinder Walia, Executive Director of Bronx Community College’s Early Childhood Center, and her team on the successful reaccreditation of the Center! This will allow BCC to continue providing high quality and low cost educational services to the children of our students.

BCC was prominently featured in a February 18, 2018, New York Times article, “African Immigrants Find an Open Door at a Bronx College.” We are very excited about the continued positive attention the College is receiving in the news. You can read the article at <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/18/nyregion/african-immigrants-bronx-community-college.html>.

Please join me in congratulating our athletes! BCC’s Men’s Soccer team led all CUNY soccer teams (senior and junior colleges) with 11 student-athletes named to the Fall 2017 CUNYAC Academic All-Star Team (athletes with a 3.2 GPA or above). Women’s Volleyball ranked second among all CUNY volleyball teams with 5 Academic All-Stars. BCC Men’s

Basketball players Hector Montano Valenzuela and Herve Awono were named to CUNYAC Men's Basketball All-Star Team and Women's Basketball player Nia Simmons was named a CUNYAC Women's Basketball All-Star.

- **COMMENCEMENT:** BCC's 58th Commencement Ceremony will be on Friday, June 1, 2018, on Ohio Field. We estimate a record-breaking amount of BCC students will be eligible to participate. At least 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 Associate Dean for Student Development, Manny Lopez.
- **NEW CAMPUS PROGRAMMING:** Following its move to Snow Hall, the Office of Career Development, led by Alán Fuentes, introduced a revamped series of job-readiness workshops for students. These interactive sessions cover everything from resume writing and interviewing techniques to how to make the most of your internship and more. The BCC Career Development team has been busy helping students find internships and jobs. Please stop by Snow Hall to learn more. The Division of Workforce Development and Continuing Education also welcomed a new member to its program management team. Barbara ("Bobbi") Hart will serve as Project Director for grant-funded Community Healthcare training programs.

The Office of Development held a Scholarship Creation Workshop to provide information about how establish your legacy at BCC while assisting students. For information about establishing annual or endowed scholarships, please contact Assistant Vice President for Development Angela Wambugu Cobb at 718.289.5910.

- **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI & TRAILBLAZERS:** BCC welcomes and congratulates its inaugural class of Distinguished Alumni who will be installed on Wednesday, March 21, 2018. This group includes: Dr. Diana Bonta '72, President of The Bonta Group; Dr. Richard H. Carmona '73, 17th Surgeon General of the United States; Honorable Annabel Palma '91, Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Strategic Initiatives, NYC Department of Social Services- HRA/DHS; Honorable Joseph M. Ramos '73, Retired Deputy Commissioner for the NYC Department of Corrections and Former Assistant Commissioner for the NYC Police Department; and Dr. M. Monica Sweeney, Vice Dean of Global Engagement and Clinical Professor and Chair for the Department of Health Policy and Management, School of Public Health at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. The second annual BCC Trailblazer Speaker Series will take place on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, from 12pm – 2pm in Meister Hall, Schwendler Auditorium. Inaugural BCC Distinguished Alumni, Richard H. Carmona, M.D., M.P.H., FACS, will give a talk on the importance of community college education.
- **GRANTS:** BCC has recently received four (4) new grants: 1) A \$250,000 18-month grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in support of the CareerPath/Head Start Collaborative (PI Madelaine Centeno); 2) A \$225,000 1-year grant from the New York State Education Department in support of Adult Literacy and Basic Adult Education (PI Blanche Kellawon); 3) A \$100,000 1-year grant from the Pinkerton Foundation in support of Future Now (PI Elizabeth Payamps); and 4) A \$22,000 2-year grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services via a subcontract with Northern Virginia Community College in support of new library services to improve support for student success (PI Michael Miller). Thank you to all who participated in writing and soliciting these grants! To support future grant efforts, the Division for Advancement, Communication, and External Relations has consolidated all pre- and post-award grant administration and welcomes Judie Eisenberg to BCC as our new Grants Director.
- **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:** Vice President Eddy Bayardelle, Director of Government Relations David Levers, and I continue to meet with elected officials to discuss the College's Capital Requests and to advocate for the University's priorities. To date, we have met with all members of government in New York State. To learn more about CUNY's budget request please visit: <http://www2.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/budget-and-finance/>.
- **CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** Male Empowerment Network (MEN) spearheaded a number of Black History Month events in February. On February 1st, more than 100 students and guests attended the Black History Month Student Talent Showcase. On February 13th, over 75 students, faculty, and staff (in collaboration with U&S Collaborative Education) participated in an African Diaspora Tour in Meister Lobby. On February 15th, more than 100 students, faculty, and staff (in collaboration with CUNY Edge) participated in an HBCU College Fair for high school students and those interested in transferring to a four-year institution to pursue their Bachelor's Degree. On February 22nd, a Men's Health Workshop is being held in collaboration with BCC Health Services. And on February 27th, MEN will host "The Criminal Justice System, Race Inequality, and Civic Engagement" – a workshop being held in collaboration with Student Life, Future Now, the CUNY Justice Academy, and Bronx Corridors.

I am pleased to announce that we are working on a new policy regarding film and television productions at BCC. Effective immediately, all film and television production companies that wish to film on the Bronx Community College campus shall be required to provide internships or other experiential learning opportunities to BCC students. In conjunction with the Events and Conference Support Unit, this process will be managed by the Office of Career Development, which is now part of Workforce Development and Continuing Education. Director Alán Fuentes and Dean Kenneth Adams are the contacts.