

Bronx Community College
PRESIDENT'S COMMUNITY REPORT – APRIL 2018
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We are officially within thirty days of the 58th Bronx Community College Commencement Ceremony, to be held on Friday, June 1, 2018! Please join me in congratulating this year's Valedictorian, Mr. Alixan Ducreay, who will be graduating with an Associate in Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Political Science degree. Please also extend your congratulations to our Salutatorian, Ms. Gina Rodriguez, who is graduating with an Associate in Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences, General degree. You are all invited to participate in the activities taking place on Ohio Field. Approximately 60 volunteers are needed during the ceremony to provide assistance with directions, distributing programs, helping family and friends of graduates in finding seats, assisting guests with special needs, and manning water stations. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Manny Lopez, Associate Dean for Student Development.

In April 2017, I announced Chancellor Milliken's plans to implement best practices across the University. To date, this review has resulted in the implementation of a new Foundation Board Memorandum of Understanding, cash management policies, Revised Auxiliary Corporation Guidelines and a Model Memorandum of Agreement, a new CUNY-wide All Funds Expense Matrix, and a CUNY-wide policy on the Use of College Facilities. Additional reviews are being made of the contracts with CUNY food service providers (like Healthy Choice at BCC), student activities fees, and sexual misconduct policies. As additional information is available to share, it will be provided. I look forward to continuing the process of improving our amazing college and university.

- **FALL 2018 ENROLLMENT:** Registration is underway for the Fall 2018 semester. To date, 2,2977 of our projected 7,231 Continuing Students have enrolled (353 more students than were registered at this time last year). 20 of our projected 2,205 New Freshmen have enrolled (1 more than this time last year). 26 of our projected 940 New Transfer Students have enrolled (the same as last year). We currently have a total headcount of 2,344 and a projected total headcount of 10,946 (down by 199 students from this time last year). There is much left to do, but we are off to a good start. For faculty, please encourage your students to enroll and to seek advisement, if they have questions about how best to move forward in their education.
- **HUMAN RESOURCES:** We welcomed Ms. Marta Clark as our new Executive Director for Human Resources on Monday, May 7, 2018. She will be meeting with her team and various VPs and Deans across campus in her first weeks to better understand the campus and any projects that may need to be tackled. If you have any specific items that you would like raised with her, please email them to the VP and/or Dean of your area. This will help streamline the communication process.
- **CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** BCC welcomed New York City Department of Education Chancellor Richard A. Carranza to campus for a visit with the BCC/CUNY Explorers Program on Monday, April 9, 2018. The new Chancellor joined 60 seventh-graders from Middle School 279 as they toured North Hall Library, the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, and participated in an experiment in the Meister Biology Lab. This program is part of the Mayor's College Access for All Initiative, a partnership with CUNY and the NYCDOE. Also in attendance were Assembly Member Victor M. Pichardo, New York State Senator Gustavo Rivera, and CUNY Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Vita Rabinowitz.

On May 5, 2018, BCC celebrated the 40th Annual Roscoe C. Brown, Jr. Run the Bronx 10K/5K Runs and 2-Mile Fitness Walk. This road race is the second oldest in New York City and attracted more than 1,600 participants – a new record. Runners came from the Bronx, around New York, and as far away as Australia, Belgium, France, and Denmark. Thank you to all who participated in making this run a success and I look forward to running with you next year!

- **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:** The College has successfully transitioned to the new payroll platform. Thank you to the Human Resources and Business Office staff for ensuring that this transition was as seamless as possible. BCC is now in the early phases of the new electronic timekeeping project (CUNY e-time). Throughout Fall 2018, we will be transitioning from paper timesheets to CUNYfirst electronic timesheets.

At this time, you should have received time and leave information from the Office of Human Resources. This includes the compressed summer schedule for Summer 2018. The summer schedule is part of CUNY's program to support sustainability through reduced power consumption and reduction in our carbon footprint. Also in furtherance of this initiative, BCC hosted our second annual shredding fest on April 11, 2018. It was a big success. Thank you to all who participated and to Frank Giglio and Campus Services for their coordination. In an effort to continue improvements, Campus Planning has announced an energy program plan that will involve the replacement of lighting in Meister, Colston, Loew, Nichols, and Carl Polowczk Halls.

BCC has completed the third quarter review and our student enrollment has remained steady from last year to this year at a Full Time Equivalent of 7,939. Our full time staffing has increased 4.5% during that period. Thank you to the Bursar's Office and newly-created Balance Team, which have been tasked with taking a deeper dive into all student financial supports. This innovative cooperation is a model for our future Bronx Express Center, scheduled to open in lower Meister. Although the full new center is several years away from building and opening, the planning is in full swing. In addition to improving the service we offer to students, we hope to make great strides in increasing the financial literacy and health of our students.

BCC has various initiatives designed to move us from paper to digital processing and streamline services while improving operations, reporting, and transparency. Our digital ID project has been completed and is being integrated into a new release of the BCC proud mobile app. Users can now access their ID card or add funds from the credit card to their Bronco Account, right from their phone. A new physical ID has also been designed. The virtual bookstore is now available and faculty and staff have been participating in training. The Campus Service Center is under renovation and will open in July 2018 in the space previously housing the BCC Campus Bookstore. Please join me in thanking the Campus Service Team and IT for their amazing work.

The Technology Oversight Committee and the Student Technology Subcommittee are hard at work on their new charter and the updated Technology Plan covering Fiscal Year 2019. This year CUNY and the Colleges will be focusing on even more enhancements to ease access to applications with single sign on and increase mobility and online storage, upgraded systems, and improved infrastructure.

- **RECOGNITION:** BCC Athletics once again raises the bar and demonstrates excellence. Please join me in congratulating BCC's men's soccer team for tying for first in all of CUNYAC (junior and senior college) men's soccer teams with 11 student athletes on Honor Roll. Congratulations are also in order for BCC's women's volleyball team, which tied for second in all of CUNY with 5 student athletes on Honor Roll. Our baseball team beat the number one ranked NJCAA Region XV team, Suffolk Community College. Suffolk was also ranked ninth national, which makes this BCC's first win over a nationally-ranked opponent of 2018 (the highest-ranked win of any Bronco team in 2017-2018). BCC's baseball team played in the CUNYAC Championship at MCU Park in Brooklyn on Monday, May 7, 2018. I was happy to join other members of the BCC community in cheering on our team for an exciting game.

On April 18, 2018, BCC was named Institutional Member of the Year by the Bronx Chamber of Commerce at The Bronx Business Awards 2018 Gala Celebration. 300 members and guests were on hand at the Marina del Rey Caterers on the East River in Throggs Neck, where we received the award from Chamber President Nunzio Del Greco.

- **NEW CAMPUS PROGRAMMING:** I am pleased to announce that BCC is offering a new Liberal Arts & Sciences, Studio Art Option A.A. Degree, beginning the Fall 2018 semester. This degree requires three basic studio courses – ART 15 (Design Basics), ART 21 (Drawing), and ART 22 (Painting), along with 3 other art electives, totaling 12 credits of studio art courses.

BCC has agreed to become one of the early adopters of the CUNYsmart program. This Strategic Management Analytics and Reporting Tool includes a Student Success Dashboard that will support CUNY's Master Plan for 2016-2020 ("Implement... early alert and analytics software to improve information available to advisors and support staff."). It will combine student data from CUNYfirst, DegreeWorks, and OIRA to facilitate targeted intervention to increase graduation rates and improve persistence, reduction of achievement gaps, and discovery of actionable insights for college leadership. It will also allow BCC to collaborate on developing tools that have value to all CUNY colleges. We look forward to sharing more information as it is available. CUNY IT anticipates planning throughout the end of the Spring and beginning of Summer 2018.

In April 2017, BCC began paper-based testing for the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), which was formerly the GED. We recently received approval from the New York State Department of Education to facilitate computer-based testing. The total testing allocation for BCC will be 37 seats per testing period, an increase of 12 slots. Computer-based examinations will take place in Meister Hall starting in September on Thursdays from 3:00pm-9:00pm and Fridays from 3:00pm-7:00pm. Stephanie Marshall will serve as BCC's Coordinator for this programming.

- **GRANTS:** BCC received an \$85K grant from the Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation in support of Nursing Scholarships. Dr. Elise Langan from the Department of Education & Academic Literacy received a \$20K grant via the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) Program for her project "New York City as a Living Museum: Exploring How Educators Use Local Resources to Enhance the Social Studies Curriculum." Professor Clarence Perkins from the Department of Business & Information Systems was awarded a \$20K grant from the Association of International Certified Accountants in support of efforts to prepare community college students to pursue accounting degrees and ultimately their CPAs. Professor Eugene Mananga from the Engineering, Physics & Technology Department received a \$10K CUNY Community College Research Grant. Dr. Vicki Flaris from the Chemistry Departments was awarded a \$10K CUNY Collaborative Open Educational Resources in STEM grant.
- **COMMENCEMENT DEDICATION JOURNAL:** The Office of Development and Alumni Relations will be producing a Commemorative Dedication Journal, which will be distributed during graduation on June 1st. Students, their families, friends, faculty or staff can send celebratory messages to a member of the Class of 2018, which will be printed in the keepsake journal. The 40 word messages are **\$15** (text only) and **\$25** (text with photo), with the proceeds funding the 2018 Class Gift in support of future BCC students. The amount of the Class Gift will be announced during commencement exercises. For more information, or to submit your dedication by the **May 15, 2018 deadline**, please visit BCC Commencement webpage at: www.bcc.cuny.edu/commencement.
- **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:** On March 17, 2018, Vice President Eddy Bayardelle and Director David Levers met with the Bronx Delegation of the City Council of the City of New York at City Hall to present BCC's Capital request of \$2.25 Million Dollars for the renovation of the Alumni Gym. We look forward to sharing good news on our request.