

# QCC e-News

The Campus Newsletter of Quinsigamond Community College



## QCC Student Samuel Offei Receives Distinguished Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship

QCC Student **Samuel Offei** has been selected to receive a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Mr. Offei is one of 60 national scholars selected this year to receive the award. The scholarship is for up to \$30,000 per year and covers student's educational expenses – including tuition, living expenses, books and required fees – for the final two to three years necessary to achieve a bachelor's degree.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship honors excellence by supporting outstanding community college students with financial need to transfer to and complete their bachelor's degrees at the nation's top four-year colleges and universities. Recipients are selected based on academic achievement and critical thinking ability, financial need, will to succeed and breadth of interest and activities.

Mr. Offei is an international student from Ghana, living in Worcester and majoring in Business Administration at QCC. He is a Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member and has applied to Georgetown University, Cornell University, and has also applied and been accepted to Bryant University and UMass Amherst. Mr. Offei is fluent in five languages and is the founder and president of QCC's Intercultural Club. He is also a Commonwealth Honors Scholar. (Scholarship runs in the family; Mr. Offei's brother received the same scholarship previously as a student in Anaheim, CA.)

*Congratulations Mr. Offei!*



Dr. Carberry congratulates Samuel Offei

Photos: Institutional Communications

## QCC Urges Campus and Community to "Power Up!" at Electric Vehicle Event

QCC is the recent recipient of two Charge Point Electric Vehicle Charging Stations donated to the college as part of a grant from National Grid. A special event on April 25 celebrated QCC's newest effort in sustainability and clean transportation. QCC is one of three local college campus sites that have been selected for the charging stations. The event included information, demonstrations and two EV models on display: the Toyota Prius and Mitsubishi iMIEV.

Speakers from QCC included **Victor Somma**, Director of Community Affairs and Site Facilitator - QCC Southbridge, President **Gail Carberry** and **Don Morin**, Associate Professor of Automotive Technology/Coordinator of the Automotive Program. John Gilbrook, Transportation Project Manager from National Grid and Christopher Noonan, Senior Program Advisor from the Institute for Energy and Sustainability also spoke.



Don Morin addresses the crowd.



Foreground: the iMIEV  
background: the Prius

# Campus News

Send us your news! We want to hear what's happening in your department and with your students or staff. Submit information at [www.QCC.edu/newsletter.html](http://www.QCC.edu/newsletter.html). Events, awards, success stories... We want to share your news with the entire QCC community. **The deadline for the May e-newsletter is May 11, 2012.**



## Bonnie Coleman, PTK Advisor Receives Distinguished Advisor Award at Annual Convention

**Bonnie Coleman**, QCC's PTK Advisor has been awarded Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society's Distinguished Advisor Award at the 94th Annual PTK Convention in Nashville, TN on April 12 -14. Advisors are recognized for significant contributions to the growth of individual members, service as the chapter's advocate on campus and encouraging the chapter to be involved on the local, regional and/or international levels of the organization. Advisor awards include three categories based on length of service and previous recognitions. The Distinguished Advisor Award is for advisors with at least four years or more of service. **Ms. Coleman** has been QCC's PTK Advisor for six years.

**Ms. Coleman** traveled to Nashville, TN with **President Carberry**, Dean of Students, **Liz Woods**, PTK President, **Jodi Christian** and **Tom Bossé**, PTK Treasurer to attend the annual convention. **President Carberry** accepted the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction and **Liz Woods** accepted the Distinguished College Administrator Award at the convention.

## QCC's Honor Society Inducts 207 Students in Annual Ceremony

QCC's Alpha Theta Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society inducted its newest members on April 11 in a candlelit ceremony at the Hebert Auditorium.

Of 207 students inducted, 140 were present to take the PTK pledge. The ceremony included speakers **President Gail Carberry**, **Liz Woods**, Dean of Students, **Steve Sullivan**; Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services and PTK President **Jodi Christian**.

PTK International Honor Society is the largest honor society in American higher education with 1,250 chapters on two-year and community college campuses in all 50 of the United States, Canada, Germany, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the British Virgin Islands, the United Arab Emirates and U.S. territorial possessions. More than two million students have been inducted since its founding in 1918, with approximately 100,000 students inducted annually. QCC's PTK chapter is one of the most active in the region with over 800 students eligible to join PTK this year.



Newly inducted PTK members

Photo: Steve Ericson, Media Services

## COWC Tomorrow's Skills for Today's Managers Series I & II Awards

The Human Resources Training Committee of the Colleges of Worcester Consortium, Inc. held their Certificate Awards Luncheon for "Tomorrow's Skills for Today's Managers" Series I & II on Wednesday, April 11 at the College of the Holy Cross - Hogan Campus Center.

The focus of the workshops is on the acquisition and enhancement of practical skills for managers and supervisors. The six workshops lead to a formal Certificate in Management awarded at the completion of the series.

Congratulations to the following recipients from Quinsigamond Community College who received their certificates of completion: (Left to Right) 2012 Series I Certificate Recipients: **Joan Perry**, Computer Center Manager; **Kim Cummings**, Part-time Manager of Disability Services; **Anne McKenna** Manager of Grants & Auxiliary Accounting; **Maria Addison**, Director of Career & Academic Planning. 2012 Series II Certificate Recipient: **Cherie Comeau**, Former Program Manager of TEC.



Photo: Laurie Comeau



## QCC Robotics Club Competes at 2012 VEX Robotics World Championship

Six members of the QCC Robotics Club along with Advisors **Dean Polnerow** and **Betty Lauer** traveled to Anaheim, CA to compete in the 2012 VEX Robotics World Championship.

The team worked tirelessly to field two robots for QCC at the event held April 19 - 21. Competing were nearly 10,000 participants from 18 countries around the world, including 600 robot teams from nearly 5000 VEX robot teams overall throughout the world. The event includes competitions for middle school, high school and college levels. Professors Polnerow and Lauer also acted as judges for the event. Dr. Douglas D. Osherooff, Professor of Physics at Stanford University and a 1996 Nobel Prize winner was one of the guest speakers at the event.

**Autumn Kubiak**, one of only two female students on the team said recently that they are already "psyched for next year's competition and are planning their designs for next year's new robots!"

The team earned high praise from many judges who commented on the originality of their robots.

The team is currently soliciting sponsors as fundraising efforts and earnings from hosting High School Robotics competitions does not cover the total costs associated with competing on an international level. For more information, contact Betty Lauer at [blauer@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:blauer@qcc.mass.edu) or 508.854.2765.



Front row (l to r): Vladimir Pogorelov, Phouc Phan, Autumn Kubiak (team leader), Dr. Douglas Osherooff, Katie Cunningham. Back Row (l to r): Mike O'Connell, Mike Bonin, Dean Polnerow (QCC CSET Asst. Professor), Betty Lauer (QCC CSET Professor)



## JAZZ on Campus!

On Friday, April 20, Jazz Radio Station WICN visited QCC and spoke about jazz in New England to the History of Jazz class. Pictured are Professor **Jose Castillo**, WICN Manager Gerry Weston, Jazz Host Joe Zupan, and members of the History of Jazz class.

## The Wyvern in the Wild



**Maria Addison**, Director of Career and Academic Planning caught the Wyvern recently in Bangkok, Thailand.





# Campus News

## Grainger Tools for Tomorrow® Scholarship Awarded

Recent QCC graduate, **Richard Domine** from Shrewsbury was awarded Grainger's Tools for Tomorrow® Scholarship on Wednesday, April 11 at the Worcester Grainger location on Brooks Street.

The Grainger Tools for Tomorrow® scholarship program awards financial assistance in the amount of \$2,000 for tuition and books to final-year students, with a focus on veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, earning their associates degree or certificate in an industrial trade at select community colleges across the country. In addition to financial support, the Grainger Tools for Tomorrow® scholarship program helps to launch students' professional careers by awarding a customized Westward® toolkit upon graduation. Each toolkit is custom-filled for the graduating student's skilled trade area of expertise. (Mr. Domine's kit is valued at over \$2,000.)

Mr. Domine is a US Army veteran, a Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member, active in community service, specifically veteran's organizations, including the Boston Homeless Veterans shelter and the former homeless veterans shelter in Lowell. Mr. Domine is a December 2011 graduate, earning an Associate's Degree in the Electromechanical Technician Program at QCC.

For more information on the scholarship, contact **Sue Meola** at [smeola@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:smeola@qcc.mass.edu).



Left to Right: Michael Hanlon from Grainger, Richard Domine and Pat Toney, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Photos: Institutional Communications



## Children's School Art Exhibit

The annual Children's School Art Exhibit kicked off with an evening reception for family and friends on April 24.

The talented, young artists range in age from two years, nine months to five years, five months. View the exhibit in the Art Gallery Hall in the Administration Building until the end of the month.



Counter-clockwise from top: QCC student, Sabine Dupoux with daughter Ar-Marlee Dupoux-Jacob, Lisa Gurnick, Director of Athletics and Fitness Center with son Nathaniel, and Michelle Tufau, Associate Dean of Enrollment with daughter Jacqueline.

Photos: Institutional Communications

# Campus News

## Presentations, Awards, and Accomplishments

Staff from the Career and Academic Advising Offices have been and will be on the road presenting their best practices and information across the country.

**Maria Addison** and **Liza Smith** recently presented at the regional NACADA (National Academic Advising Association) Conference in Connecticut on the topic of Managing the Masses: Creative Uses of Technology and Groups in Providing Advising and Career Planning Services.

**Faith Wong** along with colleagues representing the Massachusetts Community College Experiential Education Committee will receive the prestigious Innovation Excellence Award at the upcoming annual NACE (National Association of Colleges and Employers) conference held in Las Vegas this June. The award recognizes their work on a state-wide comprehensive handbook for internships and cooperative education programs, entitled, "Experiential Education: Internships & Cooperative Education."

**Dan de la Torre** accompanied by colleagues from Clark University and Middlesex Community College presented on the topic of Transfer Advising for the Health Professions: Challenges and Opportunities at the NETA (New England Transfer Association) 41st Annual Conference, in mid-April at Woodstock, Vermont.



Left to Right: Maria Addison, Liza Smith, Faith Wong and Daniel de la Torre

*Congratulations Maria, Liza, Faith and Dan!*



Pictured from left to right: (back row) Hardik Hanslia, Patrick Smalcuga, Michael Smith, Anthony Mikelonis; (front row) Amirhossein Farvardin, Obesebea Aye-Addo, Levis Agaba; (not pictured) Marsela Fida, Shai He, Brian Waweru, Nahal Farvardin, Valentine Beluchukwu

## Quinsigamond Community College Math Team Receives Lois A. Martin Award

The Quinsigamond Community College Math Team received the Lois A. Martin New England Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (NEMATYC) Student Mathematics Award. The award is named for Lois A. Martin, a renowned mathematics educator who created the NEMATYC Student Math League Recognition Program. The award is granted to the top New England team in the Northeast Region of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) Student Mathematics League (SML), a national competition. The NEMATYC service area includes Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Thirteen out of the twenty Northeast colleges who competed in the SML were from New England. This is the second consecutive year that QCC has participated in the competition. The QCC team finished in first place last year and second place in the Northeast Region for the second consecutive year.

QCC's Math Team is comprised of 12 full-time students; **Michael Smith**, a Basic Engineering major, finished with the top overall individual score in the Northeast Region, for the entire competition. He also received a NEMATYC Recognition Award. Other top overall finishers included **Amirhossein Farvardin**, a Basic Engineering/Biomedical Engineering major and **Hardik Hanslia**, a Basic Engineering major, finishing 14th and 19th, respectively, out of over 187 students in the Northeast.

*Congratulations to the team!*



# Faculty, Staff, & Student Notes

## MA Women in Public Higher Education Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Massachusetts Women in Public Higher Education, Inc. (MWPHE) celebrated its 30th anniversary on Friday, April 13, in Lynnfield, MA.

This year's Annual Conference featured keynote speaker Suzanne Benoit, LCSW, SPHR of Benoit Consulting Services, who spoke on "Toxic Behavior in the Workplace: Interaction with Toxic Employees." Approximately 200 women attended the conference which included the annual Executive Board elections and collection of donations for Rosie's Place and MWPHE's Student Achievement Scholarship and Professional Development awards.

In addition, a new award instituted in celebration of MWPHE's 30th anniversary, the Phenomenal Women Award, was presented.



## Worcester Earn-a-Bike Program Championed by QCC Employee

QCC bookstore employee **Jonathan Flood** has brought the Worcester Earn-A-Bike program to QCC to fill the gap between deserving programs and the resources and outreach QCC and the bookstore can provide.

Worcester Earn-A-Bike is a local nonprofit that gives participants the skills and equipment to build their own bicycle in exchange for time volunteering at their shop. In keeping with QCC's mission and promoting sustainability, the Campus Store is holding a raffle to win a Samsung Galaxy tablet computer in exchange for donations to Worcester Earn-A-Bike.

Donations will be accepted April 2 - May 4. All donors will be entered to win:



Bike Parts (pedals etc.):  
1 ticket  
Bicycles (new or used):  
10 TICKETS!  
Drawing will be held on  
May 4.

For more information  
contact Jonathan Flood at  
[jflood@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jflood@qcc.mass.edu) or  
508.854.4280.

## New Faculty and Staff

On April 23, Community Engagement welcomed **Christine Whipple** as Director of Philanthropic Relations. Ms. Whipple brings over 20 years experience from the non-profit and corporate sector, that has included managing fundraising campaigns, foundation and grant opportunities and annual giving campaigns. Most recently, she has provided consulting support to the Division of Community Engagement involving event planning and fundraising initiatives. Ms. Whipple earned a BA in English from Worcester State College and an MS in Professional Communications from Clark University.

On April 30, Community Engagement welcomes **Deborah Zulick** as Program Administrator for the MACCWDTA (DOL Grant) Project. Ms. Zulick brings over 17 years of non-profit experience managing projects, events, grants and fundraising initiatives. For the last eight years, she has helped develop and manage several initiatives within the Connecticut Library Consortium (a statewide, non-profit library cooperative serving 800 member libraries across the state), which have included statewide resource sharing, event management, marketing and communications, grant management and community outreach.

Please join us in welcoming Christine and Deborah into their new roles at QCC!

## Rocket Launch on Campus!

Students from Professor **Bob Gillies** Physics class in the Verizon Next Step program gathered on the QCC baseball field to launch rockets built in class earlier in the semester. The launch was a success - students were able to witness the practical applications of physics!



Photo: Bob Gillies

