

CONNECTIONS

A PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS OF QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**TRANSFORMING
A CITY**

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**DONOR PROFILE:
DAVID OJERHOLM**

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Transformations...

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." This Biblical quote written many centuries ago is a reminder that the lives of each of us are continually in transition. As the times change, so must our human-created social, educational and political structures in response to the consequences of change. These past two years have been times of economic uncertainty for many individuals and families in our community. These past two years have also been times for individuals to take direct action in response to job lay-offs and personal financial concerns. A record number of students – more than 13,000 – enrolled at QCC in the 2009 – 2010 academic year. These individuals have sought to transform their lives through education and training.



Photo by Amy Yarnover

QCC has increasingly transformed its educational delivery methods to better meet the changing needs and expectations of our students. Only three years ago, about 350 students accessed QCC courses online; today over 3,000 students have enrolled in QCC online courses each semester. Distances have also been shortened for students who attend QCC from Southern Worcester County through the opening of a campus in Southbridge in Fall 2009. QCC is transforming more lives today than at any other time in its history.

Our physical campus has also been transformed through a "loop road" that traverses the perimeter of the College, permitting an open, safe and inviting green "quad" in the center of the campus. A Science and Technology building is in the design stages for 2014 construction to support transforming the curricula. A new College logo graces the covers of QCC publications transforming the image of the College to the outside world. Our campus mascot has been transformed from a socially outdated image of the "QCC Chiefs" to that of a Worcester area guardian protector – a Wyvern.

In May 2010, QCC graduated over 1,000 students – its largest graduating class ever! Each of these graduates is prepared to join 20,000 alumni who are jointly transforming the community in which we live.

In these difficult economic times, local families are increasingly valuing the role QCC plays in providing affordable access to quality higher education. Through the process of transferring QCC credit to a four-year school, wise students are transforming their associate degrees to baccalaureate degrees in record numbers. Each college educated resident of our community will help lead the economic recovery of our state, transforming our collective futures to a "season" of new prosperity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gail E. Carberry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "y".

Gail E. Carberry
President

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TRANSFORMING A CITY

Worcester Mayor Joseph O'Brien visits the college and talks about his experience at QCC.



TRANSFORMING A COMMUNITY

QCC does more than educate. It transforms the lives and futures of its students.



TRANSFORMING QCC From The Outside Looking In

The campus completed a number of projects through the efforts of various departments across campus.



TRANSFORMING OUR SHARED COMMUNITY

Campus Notes

Reaching out to inner city youth, preparing high school students, and circling the globe.



DONOR PROFILE: DAVID OJERHOLM

Celebrates 25 years.



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Managing Director
Josh Martin

Editor
Meredith Galena

Writer
Marny O'Brien

Photographers
Leo Burgess
Meredith Galena
Josh Martin
Mike Nyman
Amy Yanover

Designer
Sean Harvey

Published by
Quinsigamond
Community College
670 West Boylston Street
Worcester, MA 01606
508.854.7513
www.QCC.edu



Worcester Mayor Joseph O'Brien (far right), with Miguel Lopez, '92, a Sergeant in the Worcester Police Department and member of the QCC Board of Trustees (center), and Lisa Smith, '02, president of the QCC Alumni Association, as honored guests at the 2010 graduation ceremonies

TRANSFORMING A CITY

Worcester Mayor Joseph O'Brien stood on stage bearing a little-known connection with the Quinsigamond Community College class of 2010. As this year's commencement guest speaker, he began by thanking the College for allowing him to speak that day and wasted no time in proudly placing himself among the 1,031 graduates before him as an alumnus of QCC.

Born in Montreal, Quebec, Mayor O'Brien grew up in Worcester. He graduated from Doherty Memorial High School and moved on to two prestigious universities, receiving a bachelor's degree from Fordham University and a master's from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. He had, for the most part, fulfilled his educational goals, and he made plans to return to the City he loved.

“I came to QCC at a time of transition in my life. I came here to learn a new skill and I earned a paramedic certificate.”

– Worcester Mayor Joseph O’Brien

“Worcester is an incredible place to live and work,” Mayor O’Brien notes. “We have a rich heritage, beautiful neighborhoods and parks, and wonderful colleges and universities.”

In 1994, at age 27, after working with numerous grass-roots and community organizations and entering the political field, he found himself wanting to expand his career options.

“I came to QCC at a time of transition in my life. I came here to learn a new skill and I earned a paramedic certificate,” Mayor O’Brien states proudly.

He began doing some work on the side as a paramedic-emergency medical technician, and, 16 years later, he still utilizes the training by doing limited part-time work in the field around his Mayoral duties. He readily sees the importance of QCC in the community.

“When I was here, not only did I gain new skills, I learned what a special place this is. QCC is a place where people from all walks of life come to gain real skills and experience to both help themselves and also help build a better society.”

In his inaugural address last January, Mayor O’Brien committed to doing his part to help create jobs in Worcester and improving public education “from kindergarten



Mayor Joseph O'Brien proclaims April 21, 2010 "Wyvern Day" in Worcester.



through our colleges and universities." As such, he recently created a 35-member Mayor's Work Group on Job Growth and Retention, made up of representatives from local businesses, organizations, developers, and researchers. He anticipates concrete recommendations from the group to help the city move forward in its economic development. He also has plans to bring businesses and colleges to a greater level of cooperation and partnership, with the goal of creating a larger educated workforce in the region. Mayor O'Brien views QCC as an integral component in this endeavor.

"Quinsigamond at its core is a place that trains people to serve others, whether that be preparing our next generation of police officers, firefighters, nurses, counselors, and teachers, and many more helping professions. Its graduates are well-prepared for their careers of service to society," he says.



As Mayor O'Brien continues his efforts to transform the city of Worcester, he recognizes his position is primarily a ceremonial one; his votes as a City Council member will count the same as his colleagues. However, he pledges to continue walking the neighborhoods of Worcester, as he did in his campaign, and asking for people's input on city government. He is steadfast in leading the charge of responsibility for Worcester's future and, as he requested of QCC's graduating class, continuing as an engaged citizen.

"Our government can't do it all," he admits, "so I hope the QCC graduates and all those of Worcester's colleges take time to volunteer in schools, community groups, and faith organizations. A cooperative effort can accomplish incredible things."

Mayor Joseph O'Brien offers the keynote speech at graduation.

IMPACTING A COMMUNITY

Three years ago, Cayla Rondeau was graduating high school. In her mind, college was not in her near future. It was too expensive, and commuting was not an option because neither personal nor public transportation was available. Despite graduating with honors from Southbridge High School, she went to work and began saving money, with hopes to attend college one day.

Cayla's story is not unlike many others from South County. As Quinsigamond Community College President Gail Carberry noted when QCC was first exploring satellite locations, Southern Worcester County residents "deserved optimal access to affordable college educational opportunities and career training." Its residents needed an opportunity to transform their lives.

Extensive regional research was completed with assistance across the College, as well as from a South County leadership team of business and community leaders who pledged support to bring QCC to the area. In the Fall of 2009, a year ahead of schedule, QCC opened its satellite location in Southbridge, bringing the most affordable higher education in Worcester County to the South County region. A transformation



QCC student Cayla Rondeau (left) with Victor Somma, Southbridge site administrator and director of community affairs.

had begun. For residents like Cayla, the news was an auspicious sign that she was about to gain what she had always wanted: an opportunity.

The College occupies the first and third floors of the 5 Optical Drive building, located in the former American Optical Complex. Students are taught in six state-of-the-art classrooms, with appropriate student services and administrative staff located in the same building.

The response has been remarkable. Expected academic year enrollment



numbers were exceeded in the first semester alone. In Fall 2010, the College will offer three full academic programs – early childhood education, criminal justice, and general studies. This represents a significant expansion of Quinsigamond’s previous presence in South County, which included only a handful of courses offered at Southbridge High School. In addition, the College offers various adult basic education, ESL, and non-credit courses to the community through its Training and Education Center.

The new site has already transformed students and the immediate community.

“I take all my classes here in Southbridge, in my own neighborhood,” Ms. Rondeau stated. “I could walk here if I had to, and

THE MAN BEHIND THE SCENES: VICTOR SOMMA

As a staff member who relocated to Southbridge before the site officially opened, Victor Somma has seen QCC Southbridge grow from a two-room office to a busy, vibrant college location

In his position as director of community affairs and Southbridge site facilitator, Victor wears a variety of hats. In between taking care of the 5 Optical Drive building during the day (there are two evening site administrators), helping to accommodate faculty needs, preparing for a monthly local radio show titled “QCC In Your Neighborhood” with other QCC staff, and taking part in the business leadership group that supports the College, Victor’s greatest satisfaction comes with being the “go-to” person for the Southbridge students. It’s a role he embraces.

“I love it,” he states simply. “Students come to me for all sorts of reasons – academic concerns, College questions, or just to share what’s going on in their lives. They know I’m always here to help.”



Mr. Somma has a lengthy background in teaching high school grades through graduate school, making him familiar with the challenges that students face. He senses a unique comfort level the students have with the College and with him.

Cayla Rondeau, QCC’s student speaker at the Southbridge opening celebration, called Victor a “hero,” without whom “(she) and countless other students would not have had such a smooth transition to college.”

STUDENT PROFILE: KEILA VAZQUEZ

Nearly a year after taking part in a summer internship engineering research experience through Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Keila Marie Vazquez of Southbridge still has the same dream: become a biomedical engineer.

Last summer, Ms. Vazquez was one of two QCC students who took part in a specialized internship program, both among only 10 chosen nationwide. REU, Research Experience for Undergrads program, was a ten-week program funded by the National Science Foundation. Students were exposed hands-on to different facets of biomedical engineering, including cell make-up and tissue regeneration.

Her academic achievement continued this past year, as Ms. Vazquez was nominated as a QCC Woman Student of Distinction and won an engineering program achievement award. This fall,



she will take the next step toward her dream and enroll at WPI as an engineering student.

Ms. Vazquez took classes at the former QCC location at Southbridge High School and readily acknowledged the advantages of having QCC in Southbridge.

“The College was a 5 minute walk for me,” she stated. “The teachers were awesome. It was totally worth it. The new facility sounds wonderful and will be such a benefit to Southbridge residents.”

I know some students who do. Everyone I talk to can't say enough positive things about QCC being here.”

Victor Somma, QCC's director of community affairs and Southbridge site facilitator, sees the effect the College is having on area residents every day.

“I get this all the time,” Mr. Somma said, “Students say to me, ‘I can't believe you're here. I would not have been able to go to college if QCC weren't here.’ I've lost track of how many students have said they would not have gone to college had QCC not located here.”

On a grander scale, QCC foresees an even greater impact on South County communities. As enrollment rises at both its main campus in Worcester and the Southbridge

location, more residents are being educated and returning to the area's workforce with degrees, certificates, or added skills training that will stimulate local business growth and job opportunities.

Mr. Somma noted, “One of the most amazing things from talking to students is that they don't want to leave Southbridge or the South County. They want to give back. The College is visibly impacting the community now and will for years to come.”

“I am indebted to QCC,” Ms. Rondeau added. “They gave me a realistic opportunity to attend college and next year, I'll graduate with a criminal justice degree. After getting my bachelor's I'll hopefully join one of the South County police forces.”



A section of the College's new loop road allows students to be safely dropped off for classes and picked up on campus.

TRANSFORMING QCC

FROM THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

Quinsigamond Community College is in a state of transformation. Changes have occurred in how QCC presents and markets itself to the public, as well as how its campus looks and operates. As the College grows, so does the excitement around its latest projects and what is to come.

FROM THE OUTSIDE

A number of projects have been completed through the efforts of various departments across campus.

QCC's expanded branding initiatives culminated in the recent announcement of a



new College mascot – the Wyvern. Having taken on a new logo last fall, QCC formally announced the new dragon-like mascot in May at the College’s Spring Fling event. Mayor Joseph O’Brien of Worcester read a proclamation, officially announcing April 21, 2010 “Wyvern Day” in the city of Worcester.

The process of renaming the mascot brought together students, faculty, staff, and alumni. A committee representing the groups set out to find the right representation for QCC, first through an initial solicitation for suggestions and ultimately by a vote from College students and staff. The winged, mythical, reptilian Wyvern, which was also the protector of Worcester’s “sister-city,” Worcester, England, was selected because, like QCC students, the Wyvern is strong, smart, loyal, and protective of its community.

The highly anticipated state-funded \$3 million Loop Road project was completed in early 2010. The project, one that Todd Emmons, vice president for administrative services, once compared to “remodeling your kitchen,” transformed the landscape of the campus. Vehicles are now routed around the perimeter, allowing safer pedestrian traffic within- and better traffic flow throughout- the campus



Susan Laprade, assistant vice president, joins volunteers in the tree planting efforts on campus.

The Campus Beautification Committee continues to find ways to return Quinsigamond to its former beauty, after having lost 300 trees to the 2008 ice storm and ‘09 beetle infestation. On May 1, QCC partnered with CSX Corporation, City Year, and the Worcester Tree Initiative to celebrate “CSX –Trees for Tracks, Next Stop... WORCESTER.” The ongoing initiative was designed to plant a tree for each of the company’s 21,000 miles of track. QCC was the recipient of 101 trees, all of which were planted by students, alumni, faculty, staff, CSX employees and their families who volunteered to assist. QCC’s grounds crew also added new shrubs and plants throughout the campus.



*(top) Mayor Joseph O'Brien (foreground), with Representative James O'Day (far right), Senator Harriette Chandler (back, center), and City Councilor Joffrey Smith at the CSX Tree Planting event on campus.
(bottom) Inside view of the new campus police station.*



LOOKING IN

In keeping with QCC's Master Plan which mandates that Public Safety be centrally located, the Campus Police Department moved its office from the basement level of the Administration Building to the former racquetball court in the lower level of the Athletic Center. Mr. Emmons credited QCC staffers for completing the work quickly and efficiently.

Construction to transform the "garden level" of the North Wing is first on the agenda. It will be configured for a number of relocated student service offices. The relocation of said offices will allow the College to renovate existing areas into much-needed classroom space. Once this lower level has been completed, construction will begin in the chapel level, where future meeting and conference rooms will be located.

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

Charged with leading several collaborative initiatives surrounding College growth and community partnerships, Dale Allen, vice president for community engagement, and his staff continue their efforts to meet the educational needs of the community through shared partnerships with the College.

- The Training & Education Center (TEC) has undergone reorganization and added new staff members to its team. According to Mr. Allen, "We are focused on increasing training offerings for corporate, non-profit, A.B.E., E.S.L. and workforce development," as well as increasing the capacity and talent to successfully grow the TEC.
- QCC grants officers have continued developing new funding leads to aid the

College. As of March 2010, the College is seeking over \$31,000,000 in grant funding for fiscal year 2010, a marked increase from fiscal year 2008 when the ask amounted to \$4.1 million.

- The division has been actively seeking new strategic partnerships with a focus on collaborative relationships and maximizing resource development. Partnerships have been formed with organizations throughout the community, including Worcester Community Action Council, Central MA Regional Employment Board, local and regional chambers of commerce, and other educational institutions.
- With the success of QCC Southbridge and its main campus enrollment continuing to rise, the College has been exploring other potential sites for new satellite campuses. Mr. Allen reported that the College has been looking at Blackstone Valley-Milford, Marlborough, and Main South areas for possible future sites.

USING TECHNOLOGY TO INCREASE TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES

QCC's Transfer Office is increasingly making use of technology to reach students who are interested in pursuing transfer pathways to four-year institutions, according to Dan de la Torre, coordinator of transfer/articulation. Highlights include:

- **QCC Portal Presence** – The transfer information page on the Portal provides an array of information, forms, and web links available to students.
- **Online Appointment Scheduler** – The new online scheduler allows students to reserve time online and fill

out necessary forms for their possible future transfer. **Through the first week of May, over 350 appointments were scheduled through the last academic year.**

- **Transfer Office Website** – This dedicated web page is the first point of contact for transfer information, with transfer agreement information and resources, college websites, and online transfer appointment scheduler. **The transfer web site had over 4000 hits from August 2009 through April 2010.**

OTHER UPDATES

- The College will spend approximately \$1 million to centralize and upgrade all data equipment and improve the electrical system in the Administration Building.
- An electrical overhaul will be completed in the Hebert Auditorium, with upgrades to controls, lighting, and sound.
- Plans are to install a grass turf on the roof of the Administration Building that will keep the building cooler during hot summer months, thereby reducing the amount of energy consumed by air conditioning.
- On March 3, QCC dedicated its new Fairlawn Clinical Simulator Lab. The high-tech Laerdal SimMan 3G patient simulator was funded by the Fairlawn Foundation and the QCC Foundation.
- QCC officials have met with the Department of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) about moving forward on construction of a new \$23 million Science and Technology building with hopes of a completion date in 2014.

TRANSFORMING OUR SHARED COMMUNITY

CAMPUS NEWS



Hadley Camilus.

ADMISSIONS COORDINATOR CONNECTS WITH KIDS

QCC Senior Admissions Coordinator Hadley Camilus finds that he can relate to inner city school youths just fine – he’s been in their shoes.

“I tell these students my own story of how both my parents were from Haiti and we lived in the inner city.” He adds, “If it wasn’t for the fact that I discovered a youth program at their age, I probably wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Part of Mr. Camilus’ job is to outreach to inner city youths from Worcester and surrounding towns. He makes positive decision-making part of his mantra and offers the example of how he became a college basketball coach.

“I did not play college basketball, but I’ve been watching the game for 20 years. I use basketball to connect with kids because many young people love the game. Now I’m head coach at QCC. I also sponsor basketball clinics at the Oak Middle School in Shrewsbury and the Worcester Boys and Girls Club. These are positive choices I made.” His point to young people – a strong work ethic can lead to success in

sports and academics, as well as have an impact on the community.

Mr. Camilus recently visited Worcester's Clark Street, Jacob Hiatt Magnet, and City View elementary schools to meet with students and introduce QCC. He says that he first visits them in their environment and then invites them to visit campus to spend a day seeing firsthand what college life is about. Mr. Camilus also makes an effort to meet with parents, citing the importance of their involvement.

"There is a misconception that parents don't care about what their children are doing. They do, and I feel it's important to stress that being a part of their children's lives will allow them to have intelligent conversations about school with their children."

REACHING THE HIGH SCHOOLS

QCC Assessment Specialist Lamont Slater finds his role with the University Park Campus School initiative a very rewarding one.

"University Park's rich commitment to providing a strong education to the economically disadvantaged in Main-South motivate me to do all that I can, especially since this is my own community."

Mr. Slater helps provide University Park students with opportunities to take the Accuplacer Test – the standard college readiness test – at both on-site and off-site locations. He sees an excellent level of preparation in the students, which reflects the dedicated high school and QCC staff members who work with them. The resulting connection the students then have to QCC has proven dividends.

"Several UPCS students have already committed to coming to QCC," he stated. "To me, this is a signal that incoming

students are receptive to the services that they are receiving as a prospective high school student from QCC admissions, testing, advising staff, and are eager to start their educational path with QCC."

Slater added that these measures fall in line with QCC's goal to bring the College's resources to students.

"Assisting University Park Community School with this initiative not only prepares them for the initial steps of the college process, but it also strengthens the Main South community as a whole. I am grateful to be a part of this process," he said.

Thanks to additional assessment staff and coordinators, over 450 students in 15 high schools in the Worcester County area have taken the Accuplacer.

FACULTY CIRCLE THE GLOBE

■ Professors Flo Lucci, Pamela Fleming, Carol Murphy, and Polina Shapiro participated in the 2009-2010 Netherlands Faculty Exchange program. In October 2009, four faculty members from colleges and universities in the Netherlands visited QCC for two weeks. The faculty members were matched with QCC counterparts who hold similar job responsibilities. In return, the QCC faculty visited the Netherlands in a similar program.

According to Ms. Lucci, "Visiting and collaborating with professors from the Netherlands helped us realize our key strengths in the U.S. as well as areas that we are less progressive. The exchange is so helpful from an academic, professional, personal and cultural perspective."

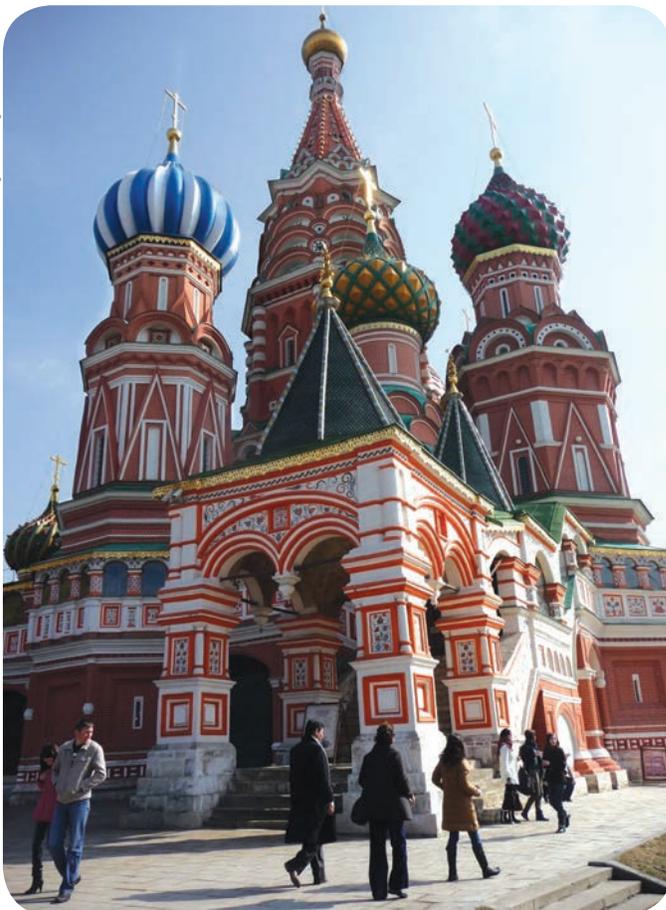
Photo by: Cheryl Finn



(Top) Susan Johnson, Peg McGrath and Cheryl Finn, all QCC health program faculty members joined a Medical Mission Team in Haiti last March.

(Bottom) St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow, as photographed by Kathy Rentsch on her trip to Russia in April.

Photo by: Kathy Rentsch



- Susan Johnson, Peg McGrath and Cheryl Finn, all QCC health program faculty members, were part of a Medical Mission Team that served at Mission of Hope in Grand Goave, Haiti this past March. As part of a 9 member Team, the three helped establish medical clinics that ultimately served over 300 Haitians.

Ms. Finn noted that while in Haiti the QCC professors worked closely with staff from Mission of Hope and were able to draw on their areas of specialty including maternal/child health, public health, medical/surgical, trauma, and emergency medicine.

- Kathy Rentsch, Dean for Business & Technology, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to participate in a Community College Administrator Seminar in the Russian Federation in April. Ms. Rentsch traveled as part of a delegation of six community college administrators from the U.S. who met with officials in Moscow from the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, leaders from several prestigious universities in Moscow, and with senior staff from the Moscow Fulbright Office.

Ms. Rentsch then traveled to Sochi, Russia where she met with counterparts from the Russian State University of Tourism & Service to explore potential collaborations in travel and tourism and international business. She added that fledgling plans are currently under discussion for continued collaboration between the two institutions.

DONOR PROFILE: DAVID OJERHOLM

David Ojerholm, CPA, co-founder and partner of Houssan & Ojerholm, PC, is no stranger to Quinsigamond Community College, as his office is located on nearby West Mountain Street. Though he did not attend QCC, he and his family share a special connection to the College that runs deeper than just being a business neighbor.

Many years ago, Mr. Ojerholm and his wife discovered QCC's Child Study Center and Children's School. At the time, the family was looking for a school for their oldest child. The first two schools the couple looked into had proved ineffective.

"Someone recommended Quinsigamond, so we decided to give it a try. That was 15 years and four children ago," Mr. Ojerholm stated. He still displays a piece of artwork from one of his child's time on campus.

"It's a painting by my daughter, Alexandra, of a stick figure of a girl with the sun on the left and feet standing on the ground. I believe the school helped her become the grounded athlete, scholar, and good citizen that she has become. Now she's a top student at Worcester Academy and we've begun looking at colleges like Vassar and Amherst."

In December 2009 Mr. Ojerholm was honored by The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts for his service on its auditing committee. He designated the financial award that came with the recognition to

Photo by: David Ojerholm



Photo by: David Ojerholm



David Ojerholm with his family, including his four children who attended the QCC Children's School, standing at the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro (top) and next to crater they encountered on the climb (bottom).



be given to QCC's Children's School. The donation, coupled with his personal contribution, became a \$5,500 gift earmarked for the Child Study Center.

"I wanted the funds unrestricted so that the staff at the Children's School would decide what to use it for, be it a playground or whatever they may need."

At its May 5th Annual Meeting, QCC's Foundation Board of Directors named Mr. Ojerholm one of its newest members. He continues to be active in the community and feels honored to become a member of QCC's Foundation Board. "I plan to sit, listen, learn, and do whatever is needed to help in the growth of QCC."



FOUNDATION EVENTS

The Quinsigamond Community College Foundation, in celebration of its 25th anniversary, held a special donor reception at the Hanover Theatre. Guests enjoyed a reception followed by the final showing of *Riverdance* at the theatre. Hors d'oeuvres at the reception were made and served by students of QCC's Hotel and Restaurant Management program. QCC President Gail Carberry addressed the donors and guests, along with Michael Wronski, executive director of the Foundation, and Roland Gauthier, President of the QCC Foundation.



Nearly 150 alumni from the Radiologic Technology Program returned on April 30 for a reunion. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, and refreshments and were welcomed by President Carberry and Linda LaFave, Coordinator of the Radiological Technology Program.

(Top) QCC Foundation 25th Anniversary reception at the Hanover Theatre. (Middle) Honors and Awards Reception. (Bottom) Rad-Tech Reunion.

QCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MESSAGE

BRENT J. ANDERSEN, CHAIRMAN

Despite the downturn in the local and national economy, Quinsigamond has made extraordinary efforts this year to ensure that the residents of Central Massachusetts continue to be able to access its public educational offerings. With the understanding that it is during precisely this type of slow economic activity, in which the services, certificates, and degrees offered by community colleges are most needed by area residents, the College has greatly expanded its course offerings in order to meet these needs.

This year, Quinsigamond opened a new instructional site at 5 Optical Drive in Southbridge. Not only did first year enrollment at the Southbridge location far surpass initial expectations, but projected enrollment for fall 2010 classes is strong as well. Matching student-residents' needs to Quinsigamond's need to grow has proven to be a win-win situation for all concerned. Plans are currently underway to offer additional full programs of study at our Southbridge campus. Moreover, on-going conversations between Quinsigamond and Westfield State College, relative to potential articulation agreements, will hopefully secure a partnership allowing students to transfer from Quinsigamond's Criminal Justice program to Westfield State.

Quinsigamond graduated 200 more students in June 2010 than in June 2009, representing a 25% increase. The faculty, staff, and administrators of Quinsigamond strive to ensure that the college offers the best opportunities in the most cost-efficient and effective manner possible. These opportunities for our students have not been haphazard though. The College's current and projected growth, overseen by the Board of Trustees, has been strategic. Creative and well researched initiatives, geared towards the specific needs of the current workforce and area employers, have allowed



the College to uniquely benefit both area student-residents as well as area businesses. Careful study of the current needs of up-and-coming industries and constant attention to the future needs of Central Massachusetts businesses and industries is accomplished by periodic comprehensive program reviews conducted by the College. The College also engages area businesses and industries by holding frequent industry-specific forums to collect information on the relevance of current offerings and to anticipate and fulfill the area employers' future staffing needs.

The College is ready and well situated to offer the courses and degrees, and to provide the support needed to prepare a highly skilled workforce to contribute to the economic revival of the Commonwealth. Furthermore, the benefit to all residents of Massachusetts of having the ability to lure businesses into the area by virtue of the presence of trained workers and educational support opportunities is enormous. In a recent report issued by the Skills2Compete Campaign, the National Skills Coalition noted that Nationally, a 10 percent increase in the number of adults with middle-skill credentials would increase federal tax revenue by \$14 billion and save taxpayers up to \$2,500 per person in reduced reliance on public assistance programs. Surely, the economic impact of educational preparedness on Central Massachusetts, the Commonwealth, and the Nation as a whole cannot be overstated. Thus, the College continues working to transform the lives of its students and their families while working also with a greater vision of transforming the economic condition of all residents of Massachusetts and beyond.



QUINSIGAMOND
Community College

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UPCOMING EVENTS

QCC FOUNDATION THIRTEENTH GOLF CLASSIC “DRIVING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS”

Monday, September 20, 2010

Wachusett Country Club
West Boylston, MA

2010 BOURNE SCALLOP FESTIVAL SPONSORED BY QCC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Saturday, September 25, 2010

Featuring craft booths, entertainment
and a 90-minute narrated Cape Cod
Canal Cruise • Cost: \$59