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Senator Michael Moore comes to QCC

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S P R I N G  2 0 1 2
FOCUS ON… greatness!

QCC is standing on the threshold of greatness. This is a direct result of QCC’s response to the economic uncertainty we have been facing for several tumultuous years, and our service and dedication to our students who see education and training as a means to a new career or better prospects. Not only do our students recognize the value and quality of a QCC education, they are realizing QCC’s potential as a jumping off point – to transfer to a four year college or university – and the incredible value we provide as their first two years of a four-year education.

With no resolution to the economic crisis in sight, QCC continues to service people who are recognizing education as the answer to their financial freedom - at record-breaking numbers. Working closely with our business partners, elected officials, and our community, our responsiveness to the needs of our constituents can be seen directly in our record enrollment – today, QCC has 9,130 students enrolled – an increase of 50% in just six years. QCC continues to be ranked among the fastest growing community colleges in the nation, as reported in Community College Week.

Because it is our mission to respond to the needs of our students, prospective students, and business partners, the QCC Alumni Foundation has re-doubled efforts to reach out to Alumni through special social events organized to benefit the Alumni Scholarship fund. And since giving back has always been the hallmark of a QCC grad, our generous alums have risen to the challenge, donating more than ever to the scholarship fund that is so important to many of our students. (See a Round-up of Alumni Events on page 14.)

Our scholarship opportunities are continuing to grow as well. The newest scholarship we are honored to offer, in memoriam, is the Professor Paul Rossman Outstanding History and Political Science Award. Sadly Professor Rossman, one of the College’s founding staff members, passed in April, 2011.

And we are also fortunate to have an influential legislator (and distinguished Alum!) in our corner – Senator Michael Moore, who is the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Higher Education and also one of our district’s Senators. We are confident he sees the larger, educational contribution that community colleges provide and will help us to continue to navigate the rough waters of this economy and our constant challenge to develop and provide relevant training and education. (See our story on the Senator on page 11.)

Please join us as we stand on this threshold and open the doors wide to push past the adversity and challenges of this economy, as we continue to offer the highest quality education with the best value.

Sincerely,

Gail E. Carberry
President
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September 2011 marked the 2nd year of a successful QCC/Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce partnership offering an entrepreneurship certificate program. Classes cover topics including accounting, business plan development, finance and banking, social networking skills and management models and challenges. Classes are held twice a week, from late September through mid-November for a total of 38 hours, at the Chamber of Commerce office in Whitinsville. Upon completion, students will receive a certificate from QCC.

In October 2011, trees planted one year ago, thanks to the Worcester Tree Initiative and Scotties® celebrated a healthy, beetle-free first birthday. Sixty-five trees were donated to replace those lost from the Asian Long-horned Beetle infestation and the 2010 ice storm. Over 100 members of Boys and Girl Scout Troops from the Worcester-area, QCC staff, local elected officials, Congressman McGovern, Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray, Senator Harriette Chandler, QCC’s Wyvern, Representative James O’Day, and QCC President Gail Carberry took part in the planting.

In November 2011, the “Be An Angel” Holiday program sponsored by QCC Counseling Services entered its 11th year, as a support program for QCC Families. The holiday tradition provides donated meals and toys through a confidential distribution system to approximately 100+ families each year. Also in November, the Dental Program’s, Kidseal Project celebrated its 12th year of successfully treating underserved Worcester Public Elementary School students. The program, under the coordination and supervision of Joyce Cooney, provides sealants, cleanings, and fluoride treatments by students in the Dental Program to local school children. The program is a self-sustaining, community service project dedicated to providing dental services for the prevention of tooth decay and education in basic dental hygiene.

In May 2011, five of QCC’s finest were recognized for their years of service and dedication to the college during the annual Celebration of Excellence. Retirees include: Jean Nicholas; Professor of Nurse Education, Phyllis Samara; Professor of Occupational Therapy, Junea Hutchins; Professor of Nurse Education, Lynda Nesbitt; Professor of Respiratory Therapy, and Michael Vallante; Professor of Psychology.

Jean Nicholas, Phyllis Samara and Junea Hutchins were present to accept service awards from President Carberry who spoke at the luncheon, expressing gratitude on behalf of the entire QCC Family.

In June 2011 the Business Office relocated to the newly renovated North Wing as part of the overall plan to reclaim the entire North Wing for the college as classroom space. The stained glass windows were removed and placed in storage and the new space is bright and airy. The new design allows space for five new classrooms which are planned for a January completion. New space for the TRiO program is also planned for completion, following the scheduled five classrooms.

Also in June, QCC signed an agreement with Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School in Marlborough, MA to implement a newly established Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Certificate Program. The new HVAC program will offer evening classes to students with a high school diploma or GED at QCC Assabet. Students enrolled in the program can be prepared for a new career in HVAC in just two semesters.
Also in December 2011, the Biotechnology Industry endorsed the QCC Certificate Program in Biotechnology. The Massachusetts Life Science Education Consortium (MLSEC) endorsement program rated eight community colleges on biotechnology degree or certificate programs based on criteria that included core competencies defined by MLSEC, with a focus on knowledge and skills required for entry level work in research and/or manufacturing. MLSEC is a joint initiative between the MassBioEd Foundation and MassBio whose mission is to promote a coordinated approach to the development of the MA life sciences workforce through a partnership between the life sciences industry and higher education. MA Biotech Council awarded QCC Gold level status due to established internships and cooperative experiences that are an integral component of the program. Of the eight colleges endorsed, only three others achieved a gold level rating for their programs.

FOCUS on Shortening the Distance

On August 18, 2011, Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray announced the Commonwealth’s endorsement of QCC’s Advanced Robotics Program as a model for state and national science and mathematics education initiatives. QCC’s Advanced Robotics Program has gained wide-spread recognition as one of the successful programs under the Patrick-Murray Administration’s Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education and workforce initiative.

“These selected STEM initiatives will build a pipeline for success between elementary and secondary education to post-secondary education and ultimately the STEM workforce. QCC’s Advanced Robotics Program creates a unique conduit for K-12 STEM education in Worcester Public Schools to college and ultimately the local STEM workforce. The program will target 1,250 Worcester Public School students in its first year with plans to reach out to an additional 100 students in year two and again in year three.

On September 6, 2011 QCC was awarded funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts’ competitive Vision Project Performance Grant. The awards were made to 18 public higher education institutions, announced by Governor Deval Patrick.

The awards were made through the Performance Incentive Fund (PIF) a program proposed by Governor Patrick to support a variety of new and existing programs to improve college readiness and attendance of high school graduates as well as college graduation and student success rates. An independent, external review panel evaluated proposals submitted by each of Massachusetts’s 29 public campuses and made recommendations for funding.

QCC was awarded $180,500 from a total $2.5 million award to provide math boot camps and enhance the college’s STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) program. The grant will allow for further enhancements and beta testing of the boot camps and will also provide funding for a collaborative program with Worcester State University to develop expanded Graduate-level programming. The joint program’s goal is to create new professional development opportunities for instructors who wish to teach in Early College High School programs.

The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education endorsed the Vision Project in order to produce the best-educated citizenry and workforce in the nation, focusing on five key areas: college preparation, college completion, student learning, workforce alignment and elimination of disparities.

Also in September, QCC and Quaboag Regional Middle/High School in Warren, MA signed a collaborative Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to offer high school students an opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. The new MOU will lead to the launch of the Early College Pathways program in science, technology, engineering and math.
It is an exhilarating time in Central Massachusetts as QCC focuses on the future and paves the way for a brighter, greener tomorrow. Through a partnership with Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School in Marlborough, QCC opened a new door this fall for many students seeking to continue their education or enter new professions.

The new location, QCC Marlborough, is designed to keep pace with innovation and will answer the community’s need for quality education in emerging green industries. In addition to a general education curriculum, the distance, and we’ve partnered with communities and local businesses to find other opportunities and bring education to the masses.” Assabet is well-known for the success of their Adult Basic Education and ESL programming, which enticed QCC to the amplified partnership concept.

The new QCC site in Marlborough is an exciting opportunity to extend QCC’s reach beyond Worcester, while making higher education more accessible. The school will also offer business studies in conjunction with Dudley-based Nichols College. This unique program allows students to earn a baccalaureate degree by attending Nichols College in their fourth year. QCC’s Vice President for Community Engagement, Dale Allen says that the college is also working with local high schools to provide college-level courses for credit prior to high school graduation. “We’ve been exploring the viability of bringing services out to other regions of our service territory with little to no state or public funding.”

QCC held a news conference in October of 2010 announcing plans to search for a satellite location in Marlborough. A much-needed boost for the local area drew influential pillars of the community, eager to become involved. Included among over 100 people...
Focus on the Future in Marlborough

Continued from page 7

in attendance were Congressman James McGovern, State Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Joanne Goldstein, and State Representatives Danielle Gregoire and Jim O’Day. QCC’s impressive turnout also included a number of elected officials, business leaders, and the Marlborough Regional Chamber of Commerce, which was instrumental in their support for the new location. “One of the roles of the Chamber is to attract more and better jobs,” Chamber President Susanne Morreale-Leeber said. “For 2010, one of the goals for our board was to bring higher education to the city.”

With that goal in mind, the Chamber of Commerce and QCC worked together to survey local businesses, schools and residents last spring, gathering data that helped identify a distinct need for classes in the area. A leadership team consisting of Marlborough Chamber of Commerce business members, Assabet Valley Technical High School administrators and QCC administrators then met monthly to develop the curriculum and determine facility requirements for the program. Mr. Allen says that Marlborough is perfect for a satellite location and if the demand proves great enough, QCC hopes to increase its course offerings as participation swells. “It will be a matter of measuring the interest as we go based on enrollment gains and hopefully we can expand our services even more,” says QCC President Dr. Gail Carberry.

Assabet Valley Superintendent Mary Jo Nawrocki has praised QCC for its resiliency in tough economic times and acknowledged that the adaptation of technical programs to the current market has been invaluable. “We know the toughest jobs to fill right now are in the engineering fields, so our nationally certified Project Lead the Way program is sending students off to WPI, Wentworth and Rochester Institute of Technology with college credits and a passion for engineering… We want them to be able to stay in the area and have productive jobs,” she explained. After working closely with Ms. Morreale-Leeber and Jack Cutone at the Chamber of Commerce, she is happy to have wooed QCC to their facility. Part of QCC’s vision as a higher education establishment is to ensure that the needs of the community are not just met but exceeded; Dr. Gail Carberry is working diligently to roll out programs that will have meaningful impacts and allow room for growth in new industries such as QCC’s plan to offer additional job-specific training as the green industry evolves and matures. With unemployment in the Greater Worcester area remaining around 8%, it is more important than ever to keep in touch with the region’s employers and modify curricula to meet their needs; as the job market changes, so must higher education offerings. QCC’s efforts with the Marlborough Chamber of Commerce have strengthened ties with the community and provided valuable insight on the future of Central Massachusetts’ economic stability.
QCC in Your Neighborhood

Surrounded by new friends, QCC threw a festive celebration on May 6, 2011 to recognize the success of QCC Southbridge. The “Celebrate QCC in Your Neighborhood” event was an opportunity to celebrate the amazing speed at which the college achieved community integration. The immense support shown by South County businesses and the warm welcome from new students has been a rewarding experience for faculty and staff. “We sought to bring better and increased higher educational opportunities to South County,” stated QCC President Dr. Gail Carberry, “...and we are immensely grateful to these businesses and community leaders for their support.”

In honor of the success of the new QCC Southbridge site, May 6 was officially proclaimed “Quinsigamond Community College Higher Education Day” by Southbridge town officials and received special acknowledgement from Southbridge Councilwoman Catherine Nikolla, who made a public proclamation at the event.

Celebrate QCC in Your Neighborhood was modeled after QCC’s annual “spree day” featuring whimsical oversized games, social networking and a special Wyvern Awards ceremony which honored the community’s Educational Partners. One hundred thirty four South County Educational Partners, business leaders, town officials, residents, students,
QCC SOUTHBRIDGE

QCC in Your Neighborhood

Continued from page 9

faculty, and staff participated in the celebration. Tickets were sold to benefit the QCC Foundation, Inc. South County Fund. The funds have been earmarked for development of new programs.

Since opening its doors in 2009, Quinsigamond Community College’s satellite location in Southbridge has enjoyed noteworthy success. Dr. Gail Carberry, who grew up in the South County area, has made it her mission to bring higher education to every single person who wants to learn. As part of her ‘focus on community’ initiative she aims to remove barriers and shorten the distance for South County residents, a goal that has been repeatedly met and exceeded. She insists on giving credit where credit is due, however and stresses that, “Without the involvement of our elected officials and Educational Partners, we could not have achieved the level of success we are currently enjoying.”

The Educational Partners, Dexter-Russell, Hyde Manufacturing, Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center, Harrington Hospital Auxiliary, Southbridge Savings Bank, United Lens, and Central Mass South Chamber of Commerce, were honored at the event for their generous contributions.

Based in the former American Optical manufacturing facility at 5 Optical Drive, the QCC Southbridge satellite location shares space with the Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center. The hotel has been invaluable for QCC Southbridge’s success, giving generously of its space and even providing access to the hotel’s facilities. QCC Southbridge students are able to use a number of the hotel’s amenities including the swimming pool and fitness center for a nominal fee.

Upon opening at 5 Optical Drive in 2009, student enrollment expectations were exceeded, then doubled the following year, and continue to grow as the third academic year got underway on September 6, 2011. Current enrollment has swelled to 505 students.

The programs offered at QCC Southbridge are having a meaningful impact on the community, changing the lives of many people who previously had limited access to college. South County finally has options to participate in higher education that others in surrounding communities take for granted. Future alumni of QCC Southbridge comment positively about “their” new college, and are already making positive remarks about the satellite location. One of the first students to enroll was Cayla Rondeau, who spoke of the impact that QCC Southbridge has had on her life: “I can’t say enough positive things about QCC. I would not have been able to go to college if QCC weren’t here.”

With the help of local businesses and community leaders, QCC Southbridge was established to provide training relevant to the South County job industry. A shortage of qualified job applicants coupled with higher than average unemployment rates presented a unique challenge for the area. QCC Vice President for Community Engagement, Dale Allen, places great importance on the South County Leadership Group and feels strongly than they have been instrumental in making QCC Southbridge the success it is today. “Without their valuable influence and tireless involvement since inception, our goal of ‘shortening the distance’ for student access, would not be viable for South County residents. We celebrate their commitment to our students’ success.”

In the current semester, QCC Southbridge offers 70 courses including Math, English, Psychology, U.S. History, Drawing, Sociology, World History, Criminal Justice, Human Services, Economics, Microcomputing Applications and many more. Currently, three programs: Criminal Justice, Business Administration and General Studies can be completed entirely at the 5 Optical Drive location. A selection of programs can also be completed online, as an additional option for students. QCC wants to make it easier than ever for students to reach their personal and professional goals through associate degrees, certificates and even non-credit courses for extended learning.

QCC Southbridge is one step closer to President Carberry’s goal of removing barriers for anyone who wants to attend college.

“I would not have been able to go to college if QCC weren’t here.”

Cayla Rondeau
Student

www.QCC.edu
Focus on Successful QCC Alum

Senator
Michael MOORE

This May, before a large gathering at the DCU Center, QCC students were surprised and gratified that Senator Michael Moore (D – Millbury) was able to deliver their commencement address. (It was unclear if Moore, rushing from a previous engagement, was going to make the ceremony in time.) Added to the excitement of the eleventh hour appearance was the rush of coincidence and surprise that Senator Moore is a QCC graduate himself. The road to the senator’s career in public service began with earning an Associates degree in criminal justice from QCC in 1988.

“When I first attended QCC I was working full time. I wanted to attend a college that provided a quality education but also was geo-graphically located in such a way that made it accessible in terms of my work schedule, and was affordable too,” he explains. Senator

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“The future of Worcester’s job market will depend a great deal on growth in the health care, biotechnology, and higher education fields…”

Senator Michael Moore
(D-Millbury)
Focus on Successful QCC Alum

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Moore says he made the right decision in attending QCC and credits the school for the additional educational and professional opportunities he gained through graduating.

While attending QCC, he worked as an Environmental Police Officer, a position that led to his appointment to the Environmental Crimes Task Force, a division of the Criminal Investigation Bureau of the Office of the Attorney General. “I feel strongly that by furthering my education in the criminal justice profession, I enhanced my abilities and the quality of investigations that I performed. By taking the first step and attending QCC, I began the process of acquiring additional skills and abilities that opened doors to many other professional opportunities,” adds the senator.

Senator Moore’s speech began by acknowledging the hard work of the 2011 graduating class and praised QCC’s cutting-edge curriculum, as well as its demonstrated commitment to expanding opportunities for students. He also praised QCC for taking a recognizable leadership role in the Worcester community. This is a topic of great importance to the senator, who also serves as the Chair for the Joint Committee on Higher Education. “I requested to serve as Chair of Higher Education because of the vital role that our colleges and universities play in our economic life. Not only are they sources of good jobs, but they are also essential for maintaining a skilled workforce,” he says.

The senator’s goals as Chair include advocating for increased funding for financial aid and for making public higher education a priority in the state budget. Senator Moore recognizes that the latest financial crisis and the dramatic reductions in state funding are in opposition to the record-breaking numbers of student applications. He feels that the increased community college enrollments call for government action and more funding. “I think that any time you bring people into a community who are interested in furthering their education, it’s a plus,” he says. “These individuals are increasing their own capacity to make more significant contributions to our economy.”

As a native of Millbury, Moore thinks that Central Massachusetts is fortunate to have a number of quality higher education opportunities available to students. He says that much of QCC’s success can be attributed to partnerships with local businesses: “Our public and private higher education institutions individually provide a quality education, but they have also enhanced their programs by working together as partners.” These partnerships, such as the one QCC has with the Marlborough Chamber of Commerce, allow students to participate in new educational programs and to conquer economic challenges. To continue addressing these challenges, Senator Moore says that the state government will need to work with the business community to determine what skills and job training is needed.

“The future of Worcester’s job market will depend a great deal on growth in the health care, biotechnology, and higher education fields,” the senator says. “Having a skilled workforce –

“These individuals are increasing their own capacity to make more significant contributions to our economy.”

Senator Michael Moore
(D-Millbury)
"We have more single parents trying to improve their lives and older workers who, by no choice of their own, are displaced and looking to re-enter a workforce that is in need of skilled workers..."

Senator Michael Moore  
(D-Millbury)

which the Worcester area already enjoys – will be key to exploiting these opportunities.” Senator Moore cites a recent analysis performed by the Boston Business Journal in which Worcester ranked third in the nation in terms of job creation. The study, which compared 100 U.S. metropolitan areas, is proof that Central Massachusetts has a bright economic future.

The senator acknowledges that the community college demographic has changed significantly since he attended in 1988. The leading job fields are emerging as health care, biotechnology, life sciences, and higher education. This change in career focus is one of many reasons that student enrollment has skyrocketed. Other reasons include displaced workers, obsolete professions, and the traditional desire for self betterment. “We have more single parents trying to improve their lives and older workers who, by no choice of their own, are displaced and looking to re-enter a workforce that is in need of skilled workers,” says Senator Moore. “They are now going back to school to acquire the skills necessary to compete in this economy.”

Senator Michael Moore was elected in November 2008 to represent the Second Worcester District in the Massachusetts Senate. This covers the towns of Auburn, Grafton, Leicester, Millbury, Shrewsbury, and Upton, in addition to Wards 5-8 in the city of Worcester. Senator Moore feels strongly that community colleges are the backbone of the higher education system and continues to advocate for schools and students alike. He is proud of his district and the local effort that has gone into Obama’s Vision Project challenge; initiatives that QCC is diligently pursuing – and succeeding at – through conscientious development of business partnerships, innovative programming that addresses business and community needs and insistence on student success.

Senator Moore listens to constituents and colleagues at a recent QCC Legislative Breakfast

QCC CONNECTIONS • 13
On April 15, 2011, the QCC Nursing Alumni hosted a benefit for the Nursing Scholarship Fund of the QCC Foundation. Terry Foster, acclaimed speaker and critical care specialist from Kentucky, entertained the crowd at the Hebert Auditorium on the QCC main campus. The scholarship fund raised $2,489.00.

Clockwise from top: L to R: Ellen Andrews, Terry Foster, Gail Carberry, Kathy Rozanski, Peg McGrath, Debbie Campanale; Kathy Rozanski, Debbie Campanale; L to R: Brian LeClair, Denni O’Connor, Amy O’Connor; L to R: Don Cochran, Terry Foster

Nurse Education Scholarship Fundraiser Event – Featuring Terry Foster

On April 15, 2011, the QCC Nursing Alumni hosted a benefit for the Nursing Scholarship Fund of the QCC Foundation. Terry Foster, acclaimed speaker and critical care specialist from Kentucky, entertained the crowd at the Hebert Auditorium on the QCC main campus. The scholarship fund raised $2,489.00.
13th Annual Alumni Association Spelling Bee

On April 7, 2011, 20 teams from the Worcester area participated in the 13th Annual Alumni Association Spelling Bee held at the Hebert Auditorium on the Worcester campus. Two QCC teams placed in the top three, while two student teams, the “Kappa Bees” and “Theta Bees” placed third and fourth respectively. The Spelling Bee raised $5,125 to benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund.

FOCUS on Excellence

In April 2011, the Adelphi University School of Nursing and the Alpha Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International honored Betty Forest, RN, Ed.D., with their Lifetime Achievement Award at its seventh annual Nursing Leadership Conference in New York.

Ms. Forest, a 1947 graduate of the university, founded the Quinsigamond Community College School of Nursing in 1965 with just 35 students and retired as its director in 1990. Forest holds a doctorate from Teachers College, Columbia University, and an honorary doctorate from her alma mater.
QCC Alumni/Foundation Round-Up Events

Foundation Golf Tournament
On September 19, 2011 32 teams of golfers hit the links at Wachusett Country Club, West Boylston, for the 14th Annual QCC Foundation Golf Classic to benefit the Foundation scholarship fund. Over $27,000 was raised at this highly successful, annual event.

Salem Trip
A “Fun” raiser trip to Salem, MA on Saturday, October 29, 2011 sold out! The QCC Alumni Association trip included transportation on a Luxury Silver Fox motor coach, and admission to the Salem Witch Museum.

Flea Market and Craft Fair
On September 17, 2011, the QCC Alumni Association held the first Flea Market and Craft Fair to fund scholarships and other student necessities. The Worcester Senior Center was the location for the new fundraising event.

Dzian Gallery Event
An Alumni/Foundation gathering at Dzian Gallery in Worcester was a social networking event held on June 28, 2011.
Professor Paul Rossman

Quinsigamond Community College hosted a breakfast in memory of Professor Emeritus Paul Rossman on September 23, 2011, at the QCC main campus. Professor Rossman served Quinsigamond Community College for 39 years.

Professor Rossman, who passed away on April 20, 2011, was one of the College’s founding staff members, serving first as a business manager and later as an accomplished professor. In his honor, his family established the Paul Rossman History and Political Science Award Fund. A memorial breakfast gave Quinsigamond Community College an opportunity to share their gratitude with family, friends, colleagues and students.

Professor Rossman’s wife, Barbara remarked, “Paul’s happiest years were spent teaching. Inspiring students was his greatest reward. Paul gave a lot of himself and demanded a lot of his students. He took great pride in watching them explore deeper, reach higher and achieve more. It is our family’s hope that this annual award will honor an outstanding student and perpetuate Paul’s legacy: “By learning from the past, one can influence the future.” All gifts received will go directly into the “Paul Rossman History and Political Science Award Fund” within the QCC Foundation.

Donations to both the QCC Foundation and the Paul Rossman History and Political Science Award Fund can be made on-line at: http://www.QCC.edu/pages/Alumni_and_Advancement.html

In Memoriam

Robert Axline

Foundation Board Member Robert Axline passed away on July 27, 2011. Mr. Axline had been a Quinsigamond Community College Foundation Board Member since June 2004; he was currently serving his second term. Mr. Axline always had something to share, whether at a Board Meeting or through a gift to QCC. His presence was a constant and his dedication and commitment will not soon be forgotten.
As Quinsigamond Community College continues to grow and transform lives, it does so guided by its five-year strategic plan, “Pathway to a New Prosperity,” which establishes a vision and direction for future College plans and initiatives through 2015.

Under the guidance of the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, three cross-functional Strategic Action Teams are in place, charged with lifting various aspects of the Plan and exploring initiatives and programs. These groups are comprised of dedicated members from departments across campus, including faculty, staff, and student representatives, and are focused on the areas of Entry, Program, and Persistence of our students.

It was a busy 2010-11 academic year for the Action Teams. The Teams completed prioritizing the objectives and began working with subcommittees that will have a more narrow focus on certain objectives. During the 2011-2012 academic year, the teams and subcommittees will develop action plans, build upon current initiatives, and help implement projects across campus.

In addition, the College’s Executive Team demonstrated its commitment to the plan and encouraged new initiatives through a fund that was established to support projects related to key planning objectives. The initiatives that will be funded for the 2011-2012 academic year are developmental math and English boot camps, as well as a service learning initiative. For the 2010-2011 academic year, two faculty members were able to attend the New England Educational Assessment Network (NEEAN) conference. QCC also purchased software that will provide easier access to data, as well as software that will help service students more effectively through QCC’s phone system.
Despite the on-going economic crisis, QCC continues to experience an enrollment increase - up 52% over the past five years, in fact! This amazing growth trend is indicative of QCC’s commitment to provide the most relevant training and education to its students, so that both the needs of the students as well as their prospective business employers are met in an economy and workforce that are in continual flux.

QCC’s ability to provide the most current program offerings is extraordinary in light of the financial crisis that defines our world currently. Our most pressing concern, due to the financial crisis, is the inequity of state appropriated funds that are critical to our mission. At this time, the state’s appropriation to QCC per full-time student is the lowest in the state college system, as QCC President Gail Carberry noted at a recent Legislative Breakfast hosted by the college. As we voiced our concerns for assistance to our elected officials, we were assured by the delegates in attendance that our concerns are valid and important. Moreover, in addition to recognizing our concerns, they pledged to work with QCC in the coming months to lessen this inequity. We must hold them to their promise—our students and our community deserve it!

While QCC is able to respond effectively to changing business trends, it does not manage this feat in a vacuum. Relying upon a variety of local businesses and business leaders for their expertise, QCC continues to foster and develop these beneficial relationships, working in concert with the business community to develop and incorporate highly sought-after training for high demand and burgeoning business areas. QCC’s new Solar Photovoltaic Training Program and HVAC Program, both located at the new Assabet satellite site are only a few examples. We value these relationships and will continue to hold our business partners in high esteem as we continue to address each other’s needs in a conscientious and strategic way.

In response to such strong and continued enrollment increases, there has been more physical expansion to accommodate the growing student body and to “shorten the distance” by reaching students in neighboring areas. In the past year, QCC opened a satellite site at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School in Marlborough, MA and is currently developing plans to open a satellite site in Blackstone Valley in 2012. The relocation of QCC’s Automotive Tech Center, in partnership with Burncoat High School and our partnership with the Worcester Boys and Girls Club to provide better access for potential Main South (Worcester) students, has been completed. Furthermore, the recent expansion of QCC’s Training and Education Center at 280 May Street in Worcester, facilitated by Temple Emanuel and Worcester State University, allows for more classroom space and student body growth now and in the future. Happily, there seems to be no end to the growth for QCC, the students it serves, and the community as a whole in which QCC is playing a vital role.
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<td>March</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>40th Reunion&lt;br&gt;Alumni Celebration&lt;br&gt;Child Study Center &amp; Hebert Auditorium</td>
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<td>Alzheimer's Caregiver Workshop and Networking Night&lt;br&gt;Alumni Association trip to Scallop Festival at the Cape</td>
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<td>QCC Foundation Golf Tournament, Wachusett Country Club, West Boylston, MA</td>
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