Iris Godes Elected President of MASFAA
Ms. Godes begins service July 1, 2012

Iris Godes, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment has been elected President of the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA.)

MASFAA is a 41-year old organization of financial aid professionals dedicated to promoting access and awareness of financial opportunities available to assist all students in pursuit of higher education. Ms. Godes has been an active member in the association for over 15 years.

She was nominated by peers in MASFAA, whose nominating committee announced all candidates at their annual business meeting in November. Ms. Godes and a second presidential nominee delivered speeches at the same meeting. The on-line voting process began the same day and was open for one month. The votes were finally tabulated and Ms. Godes was notified of her win on December 10, 2010.

Since then, Ms. Godes has enjoyed overwhelming support from community college colleagues who are thrilled with her election as there has not been a president from a community college in over 10 years. She says she “is honored and looks forward to representing the public sector and community colleges in particular, while in this leadership role.”

The process for fulfilling service as President begins on July 1, 2011, when she becomes President Elect. On July 1, 2012, she becomes MASFAA President and will serve for one year. After a year as President, she then becomes Past President and also MA representative to EASFAA (Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.) Her commitment to service on EASFAA, a regional association, is for one year.

Earlier this year, Ms. Godes won the prestigious Sheehan Distinguished Service Award. The win represents the first time in the award’s 22-year history that it has been given to a representative from a community college.

The QCC family extends their congratulations to Ms. Godes on her well-deserved election as President of MASFAA.

QCC Lands on Top 50 List Again!

Community College Week recently released its Top 50 Fastest-Growing Public Two-Year College list for Fall 2008 to Fall 2009. In the 5,000 to 9,999 students-category, QCC has once again captured a spot on the nation-wide list. QCC has been identified as only one of two colleges to make the nationally-ranked list three years in a row. Steve Sullivan, Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services is pleased by the recent results saying, “our enrollment growth has not gone unnoticed. QCC deserves the recognition!”

Biotechnology Industry Endorses QCC Certificate Program in Biotechnology

Eight Community Colleges Endorsed; QCC Earns Gold Level Rating

Massachusetts Biotechnology Council (MassBio) released ratings from a new Massachusetts Life Science Education Consortium (MLSEC) endorsement program on December 8, 2010 rating 8 community colleges on biotechnology degree or certificate programs. The endorsement program is based on levels of criteria which include 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 MassBio Ed 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. The consortium works with community colleges and industry to define the competencies biotechnology students need to transition into the workforce.

QCC scored at the gold level due to established internships and cooperative experiences that are an integral component of the program. Of the 8 colleges endorsed, only three others achieved a gold level rating for their programs. (Continued)
Biotechnology Industry Endorses QCC Certificate Program in Biotechnology

“These endorsements are the first step in the collaboration between industry and academia to raise the level of workforce preparedness and ensure Massachusetts’ economic future,” said Lance Hartford, Executive Director of MassBioEd. “This program addresses concerns related to biotechnology, one of MA’s economic engines, and is a model that can be applied to other industry clusters and to wider regional and national concerns for alignment between workforce needs and college graduate preparedness.”

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Maggie Crowell Murray, Faculty Coordinator of the Biotechnology Program worked closely with MassBioEd and faculty from other MA community colleges to establish the common learning outcomes for QCC’s various biotechnology programs.

The greatest impact from the endorsement, she says, “is that the biotechnology industry is becoming aware that QCC graduates have the experiences and the skills to successfully enter the workforce. Leaders in the industry are begining to recognize that our graduates are prepared to work in biotechnology positions that are often advertised as requiring a higher educational degree.”

News of the recent endorsement has appeared in the Worcester Business Journal, MassHighTech, The Lowell Sun, Springfield Republican, State House News and on NECN.

The QCC Family congratulates all faculty and staff involved in the Biotechnology Certificate Program for a noteworthy achievement.


QCC Program Selected as a Finalist for Bellwether Award

“Changing Perceptions, Building a Workforce” Program Nominated

QCC’s program “Changing Perceptions, Building a Workforce” has been selected as a finalist for a Bellwether Award in the category of Workforce Development.

The Bellwether Award recognizes outstanding and innovative programs and practices that successfully lead community colleges into the future. The QCC program is one of ten national finalists who answered the call for nominations during the fall semester.

Individual categories for the Bellwether Award include:
- Instructional Programs and Services
- Planning, Governance and Finance
- Workforce Development

The Bellwether Award is presented annually by the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Florida during the Community College Futures Assembly Conference. The 2011 conference will be held this year in Orlando, Florida in February, where finalists have been invited to make presentations that provide evidence of program results.

The conference will focus on the extent community colleges are prepared to address the needs of the future workforce, identify potential gaps, and develop recommendations for future policy makers.

Congratulations to all faculty, staff and students involved and best of luck at the conference!
Faculty, Staff, & Student Notes

Send us your news! Let us know what’s happening in your department and with your students or staff. Submit information at www.QCC.edu/newsletter.html. Events, awards, success stories... We want to share your news with the entire QCC community.

Deadline for news and information for the January e-newsletter is January 10, 2011

Fire Science Program Student, Jason Cantara, Recognized for Heroism

Cantara to Receive Governor’s Citation for Meritorious Conduct at “Firefighter of the Year” Awards Ceremony on December 21, 2010

Fire Science Program student, Jason Cantara, has been a firefighter for 23 years but is never really off duty even when he isn’t working. Lt. Cantara responded to a road-side accident that took place some months ago and will be recognized for his courage in a state-wide ceremony that will take place in Boston’s Faneuil Hall on December 21, 2010.

On February 12, 2010 while enroute with family to visit relatives in Florida, a U-Haul truck carrying three passengers struck a tree and caught fire. Lt. Cantara, who is a Southbridge firefighter, quickly responded and pulled two passengers to safety with the help of other drivers. They were unable to free the third passenger who, tragically, perished in the blaze. It was a traumatic event for Lt. Cantara who recalls that “there was no way we could get inside of the vehicle and try and free him. We didn’t have the Jaws of Life. We didn’t have crowbars or anything. He was pinned pretty good.”

Lt. Cantara is described as “a very nice individual who has been working methodically towards his Associates Degree,” by Pat Schmohl, Fire Science Program Coordinator.

Lt. Cantara was nominated for an individual governor’s citation for meritorious conduct by Fire Chief Richard Ciesla, Jr. after learning of Lt. Cantara’s efforts. The award is one of 16 that will be presented by Governor Deval Patrick at the “Firefighter of the Year” awards ceremony, now in its 21st year.

The entire QCC Family congratulates Lt. Cantara on his heroism and well-deserved award.

Second Haiti Trip Planned for Winter Break

Donated Items Needed

Nursing professors Peg McGrath and Susan Johnson and Cheryl Finn, Coordinator of Emergency Medicine Programs, are planning their 2nd trip to Haiti over the winter semester break. Joining them on this trip will be two additional faculty members, Paula Moreau, Nursing Professor and Kathi Lewando, Professor of English as a Second Language. The QCC group is in need of the following donated items (generics are fine for any/all items):

- Baby formula – ready to feed
- Pedialyte
- Gatorade packages – powdered
- Multivitamins
- Zinc supplements
- Antibacterial hand sanitizers
- Any Antifungal medications (for athlete’s foot, yeast infections, etc.)
- Tylenol, Motrin, etc., (any pain reliever/fever reducer) for adults and children
- Monetary donations

To donate items, please place in drop-boxes located in rooms 213A with Krista Lajoie, 308A with Deb Bush and 402A with Denise Urella. The deadline for donations is 2 p.m. on Thursday, December 23, 2010.

The group will leave January 2, 2011 and spend 10 days in Grand Goave, Haiti treating children and adults for a wide variety of ailments. The trip is completely out-of-pocket for the volunteer group who finds the work deeply satisfying and worthwhile. Ms. Finn, with numerous trips to Haiti already under her belt, also recently spoke about the humanitarian trips to elementary students at the Spring Street School in Shrewsbury, MA.
PTK Students Honor Faculty and Staff at First Appreciation Event

On November 30, 2010, Phi Theta Kappa students held an Appreciation Event for faculty and staff at the HLC. PTK honored attendees, serving refreshments, and tokens of appreciation in the form of bookmarks with “The Top 10 Reasons Phi Theta Kappa Appreciates YOU” and calendars. Faculty and staff filtered through the event from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. enjoying the recognition and goodies.

QCC’s First World Aids Day Commemorated December 1, 2010

Sponsored by the Office of Student Life and Aids Project Worcester, Inc., the first QCC World Aids Day was commemorated on December 1, 2010. Jonathan Miller, Director of Student Life coordinated the event with assistance from QCC student and Aids Project Worcester employee, Linford Cunningham.

The event included free, 10-minute rapid, anonymous HIV testing and counseling services and culminated with a lecture, “My Personal Story and Journey of Living with HIV,” by speakers provided by Aids Project Worcester, Inc. Mr. Miller hopes to continue to build the partnership so that the event can be held every year.

Students Visit Various Houses of Worship

This semester, students from Sarah Sadowski’s Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (PHI 201) course visited three local houses of worship, Congregation Beth Israel, the Cathedral of St. Paul, and the Worcester Islamic Center. They met with representatives of each religious community for a tour of the facility and an exploration of each community of faith here in Worcester. Students also helped prepare and serve dinner to transitionally homeless families through Interfaith Hospitality Network, a local organization in which various faith communities work together to house and support struggling families. Students participated in the IHN program at Zion Lutheran Church on Whitmarsh Avenue in Worcester.

Annual Holiday Bake-Off Winners Announced

The winners of the Annual Holiday Bake-Off are:

**Trifles/Cakes/Breads**
- First - Elda Zeko, Tiramisu
- Second - Wayne Brink, Swedish Coffee Bread
- Third - Steve Sullivan, Pumpkin Bread

**Brownies/Bars/Cookies**
- First - Charlotte Santimaw, Chocolate Chip Cookies
- Second - Cynthia Vega, Cherry Cherry Christmas
- Third - Sharon Wilbur, Cranberry Orange Squares

**Pies**
- First - Nancy Chosta, Pistachio/Pineapple Pie
- Second - Jean Nicholas, Cranberry Nut Pie

**Most Creative**
- Terri Rodriguez, Christmas Wreath
- Charu Trivedi, Hamburger Cookies

**Sugar-Free Category**
- First - Louis Messier, Apple Pie
- Second - Krista Bardier, Chocolate Revel Cookies

A Zombie in Our Midst?

Congratulations to Leo Burgess, who recently won an AMC Network “Watch and Win” Contest for a walk-on role as a ZOMBIE in the show, The Walking Dead. Mr. Burgess was one of only six national winners who correctly located the word “Nightmare” hidden during the broadcast on December 5, 2010. No details are available yet on filming date, location or show times, so stay tuned...but don't be surprised if Mr. Burgess lurches sideways off into a new career.
Faculty, Staff, & Student Notes

Evening of Illumination
QCC celebrated the second annual “Evening of Illumination” on December 9, 2010 with words of thanks for 2010 and hope for 2011 by faculty and staff participants. The group lit and placed luminaries at the top of Amy’s Slope, while a small group of faculty and staff entertained the group with holiday songs. The Wyvern also paid a visit and was in awe of the beautiful display in the twilight.

Be An Angel - Feed a Family
For three decades, the QCC Family has responded to the needs of less fortunate members of the community with monetary donations for Feed-A-Family and toy donations for Be An Angel, with great generosity. This year more than 80 families and individuals were served with Stop & Shop gift certificates and toys. The families would like to convey their thanks for the gifts and for the remembrance. It lifted their spirits and touched their hearts. Karen Cox, Coordinator of Counseling Services, Jonathan Miller, Director of Student Life and Liz Woods, Dean of Students would like to thank all who helped make both programs possible, especially Donna Harvey, Luis Fontanez, Facilities, Food Services and the Athletic Center. Extra toys were donated to St. Joan of Arc Church in memory of former Campus minister and friend, Sister Helen Egan.

Annual Holiday Luncheon
On December 9, 2010, the Annual Holiday Luncheon for Faculty and Staff was held in the HLC from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Carving stations, a lavish desert table and lovely decorations were the highlights of the afternoon, along with a visit from the Wyvern and caroling led by President Gail Carberry.

First Annual Police Awards
On December 14, QCC Campus Police held their first awards ceremony to honor Police Staff and QCC Family. Kevin Ritacco, Campus Police Chief, presented Service, Citizen, Leadership and Patrolman of the Year Awards at the event held in the HLC.

Poinsettia Sale
The annual PTK Poinsettia sale is ON! The plants are beautiful and make wonderful gifts. Order from PTK members or at the PTK office, Room 160A. Deadline for orders is December 23, 2010 and plants are just $10. Support Phi Theta Kappa with your poinsettia order!

Model United Nations begins at QCC
Thanks to a generous grant from The QCC Foundation, QCC has officially initiated a Model United Nations student organization. QCCMUN offers students the opportunity to simulate debate, negotiation, and resolution-building on global issues as experienced in the United Nations. Students will practice debate skills and participate in local mock caucuses. QCC students will participate as delegates from Swaziland at the Harvard University National Model United Nations Conference in February 2011, which brings together 3,500 college students from around the world. Faculty advisors are Sarah Sadowski and Alison Hall.

Alumni Association Sharks Night Planned
The QCC Alumni Association is sponsoring a QCC Night at the Worcester Sharks on Saturday, January 22, 2011 at the DCU Center, Worcester, MA. Alumni will be able to enjoy “Ice Cats Night - A Tribute to Worcester Hockey” with Scratch Bobble-head giveaways for the first 3,000 fans. Tickets are $12 per person and order deadline is January 12, 2011. All monies collected benefit the Alumni Scholarships fund. For more information, contact Nancy Chosta at 508.854.4385.
QCC to Participate in National Survey

Research on Student Engagement Hopes to Illustrate Link to Student Achievement Levels

In a recent memo, President Gail Carberry outlined QCC’s involvement in an upcoming national survey. The survey, the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) was established in 2001 as a project of the Community College Leadership Program at the University of Texas at Austin.

The survey will collect data on student activities and engagement during their college experience. Research shows that the more actively engaged students are with faculty, staff and other students, the more likely they are to succeed in their studies and achieve at higher levels. The study will attempt to identify student’s activities in and out of the classroom in support of this research.

The survey will begin in spring 2011 and be administered in random classes selected by CCSSE to ensure a representative sample.

President Carberry says QCC is committed to “being a leader in education, and this survey can assist us in identifying where we are and what further action may be helpful in our continuing work to support and strengthen teaching and learning.”

Cooperation and participation “in this exciting survey,” she says “are sure to enhance our educational programs and services to students.”

For more information on the survey, visit http://www.ccsse.org.

WyvernTV Series in Development

Looking for QCC Family Input!

Institutional Communications is working on a project that will seek to answer the age-old question asked by students everywhere:

“Why do I have to learn _______ when I’ll never use it again?”

We are asking the QCC Community to fill in the blank, as well as provide practical applications of the answers. For example, a question asked by many students high schoolers may be, “Why do I have to learn geometry when I’ll never use it again?”

Some possible answers may be that geometry plays an important role in calculating angles for a game of billiards, or how much paint is needed to cover a room, or how much fertilizer is needed to cover a lawn.

The best submissions may be used in a WyvernTV series that is in the early stages of development!

Please share any ideas with the Institutional Communications staff:

Sheryl Tardie: stardie@qcc.mass.edu / x7458 - Room 115A
Cherie Ronayne: cronayne@qcc.mass.edu / x2849 - Room 115A
or Josh Martin: jmartin@qcc.mass.edu / x7513 - Room 121A