Governor’s Proposal Will Jeopardize Community College’s Ability to Govern Locally

Recently The Boston Foundation released a report titled, “The Case for Community Colleges: Aligning Higher Education and Workforce Needs In Massachusetts” in response to a perceived disconnect between middle-skilled jobs that are unfilled and the opportunities offered by higher education to meet these needs. A particular focus on community colleges has led Governor Deval Patrick to propose sweeping changes to the MA Community College system, including and most significantly, merging authority over the state’s 15 campuses into a centralized board.

President Gail Carberry along with presidents from other community colleges, while applauding the Governor for his appreciation of the mission and impact of MA Community Colleges and his support through increased state funding, ultimately oppose the Governor’s proposal. President Carberry fears economic uncertainty, citing budget cuts in Washington that will have a trickle down effect locally, affecting the state’s ability to sustain budget increases necessary to QCC’s ability to serve its student population. She says, “In QCC’s history, we have always built our budget responsibly, with our students as the priority. We are able to control quality through fee setting and entrepreneurship, but if this control is lost at the local level, it will surely damage our ability to serve our students.”

President Carberry and her peers also cite the following factors that impact the current structure:

• Local Boards of Trustees are in a much better position to identify training and education needs for the region served by a particular community college than would a state agency in Boston. They are also in a much better position to observe and evaluate the activities and performance of the President.
• The local boards of trustees were established by statute in the 1980s, with specific reference to the fact that the centralized, Boston-based oversight of the community colleges was not working.
• The 15 community colleges have always worked together on important matters of policy and coordination that impact our entire segment of public higher education. The $20 million U.S. DOL grant recently awarded to community colleges is a good example of this type of efficient and successful collaboration as a community college segment.
• Strengthening our delivery system of high quality education and training includes many partners and the community colleges will continue to work closely with business and industry, as well as the administration in offering ways to increase capacity, while maintaining flexibility and efficiency.
• The proposal describes a plan to remove fiscal and presidential oversight authority from the local board of trustees and place it with the Board of Higher Education. It is not clear how this will advance the workforce training goals that the Governor articulates. It adds a layer of bureaucracy at considerable additional cost (as yet undefined), and there is nothing in the language that indicates the ROI on such an investment.

President Carberry is currently working for legislators, seeking their support for continuity of an established model that is already successful stating, “Community colleges in Massachusetts have, by and large, a very strong record of partnering effectively with local employers to meet workforce training needs in their regions. Why would we change an organizational structure that is working well?”
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. Events, awards, success stories... We want to share your news with the entire QCC community. The deadline for the March e-newsletter is March 9, 2012.

President Carberry Receives PTK Award of Distinction

President Gail Carberry has been awarded Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society’s prestigious national award, the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction. Gordon award recipients are chosen for providing extensive support and a variety of resources for their colleges’ Phi Theta Kappa chapters, including faculty advisor release time, a line-item budget for the chapter, financial support for chapters to participate in regional and international events and scholarships for PTK members. President Carberry is one of only eight recipients, nationally, to receive the Gordon award.

President Carberry will travel to Nashville, TN with PTK Advisor Bonnie Coleman, Liz Woods, Dean of Students, Jodi Christian, PTK President and Tom Bossé, PTK Treasurer to receive the award in a ceremony in April.

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 in one of the most active in the region with over 800 students invited to induction this year.

Honors and Awards Nominations Sought

The 2012 QCC Honors and Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 9 at Mechanics Hall. Nominations for the “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges” award are now being accepted. An online nomination form for the “Who’s Who” award can be downloaded at www.surveymonkey.com/s/qccwhoswho2012. The “Who’s Who” award is one of the most prestigious awards the academic community can bestow.

Please note: The “Who’s Who” award has an early deadline for nominations. Nominations for additional awards presented at the Honors and Awards Ceremony will be available at a later date. Please take time to consider all deserving candidates from your department, division or organization for nomination.

To be eligible for an award, the nominee must be completing a certificate program or graduating from a degree program for the 2011-2012 academic year. All submissions for the “Who’s Who” award are due on Friday, March 2, 2012. Please contact Jonathan Miller at 508.854.4334 or jmiller@qcc.mass.edu for more information.

Sponsor a QCC Student Athlete!

The Athletic Center has an exciting opportunity to sponsor QCC Student Athletes. Wyvern chairs are now available for sponsorships at one year increments. For $100, a magnetic name plate will be placed on the backs of chairs displayed at every QCC home basketball game and commencement. Current sponsorship opportunities run from March 2012 through March 2013. For more information, please contact Lisa Gurnick at 508.854.4582 or lgurnick@qcc.mass.edu.
14th Annual Spelling Bee Announced

The 14th Annual QCC Alumni Association Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m., (snow date: Thursday, April 12) in the Hebert Auditorium. Join current teams Phi Bees, Theta Bees and Kappa Bees as they battle it out for top honors.

If you are interested in putting together a team or would like more information about the event, please contact Nancy Chosta at 508.854.4385 or nancyc@qcc.mass.edu.

QCC Hosts Women’s Basketball Region XXI

QCC Athletics will host the Women’s Region XXI Basketball Tournament on Saturday and Sunday, March 3 and 4 at the Athletic Center. The schedule is:

**Semi-Finals**
Saturday, March 3  
Game 1: 12 p.m.  
Game 2: 2 p.m.

**Championship**
Sunday, March 4  
1 p.m.

To determine the team that will play in the semi-finals, the QCC Wyvern women are matched against Manchester Community College on Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m. at home.

Come out and support the QCC Women’s Basketball team and GO WYVERNS!

PTK News

**Update:** The PTK Bowl-A-Thon to benefit the Jimmy Fund and the Audio Journal is scheduled for Sunday, April 1, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the AMF Bowling Center in Auburn, MA. Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. Admission is $25 per person and includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental and lunch.

There will also be various raffles during the event; to date an extensive list of items includes show tickets to the Hanover Theatre, Movie tickets, Red Sox tickets, O’Connor’s Restaurant gift certificate, $500 QCC tuition waiver and much more! For more information, contact PTK Advisor Bonnie Coleman at 508.854.7412 or bcoleman@qcc.mass.edu.
New Governance System Poll Results

The results are in from an informal poll taken during All College Day on the proposal for a new Governance System. The votes have been tallied and the college community has resoundingly endorsed the proposed Governance system. More than 200 people voted, and more than 90% of the votes cast were in favor of the proposal. A subcommittee of the Governance Review Team will now begin work on drafting the supporting documents.

CISM Team Seeks Volunteer Team Members

The QCC Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team is looking for volunteers to serve on the team. Interested individuals must complete an application, sign a Memorandum of Understanding and complete an interview. Qualifications include:

- Proof of completion of ICSF Basic Training
- Considered trustworthy and well-respected
- Able to maintain strict confidentiality
- Currently working in the emergency service field (or retired from emergency service)
- Proof of licensure or certification

For more information, contact Shanna Erickson at 508.854.4360 or serickson@qcc.mass.edu.

Spring 2012 Diversity Caucus Calendar

The New QCC Diversity Caucus is reinvigorated with an updated mission statement and new calendar of activities!

**Mission Statement**

The QCC Diversity Caucus promotes the educational mission of Quinsigamond Community College and embraces social justice by advancing a campus climate that affirms the dignity and worth of each person. The Diversity Caucus amplifies and protects the College ideal of equal rights for all people. It fosters a spirit of inclusiveness by reflecting upon the contributions of age, race, gender, ability, religious convictions, socioeconomic status, ethnic heritage, and sexuality. In its work, the Diversity Caucus cultivates the lifelong learning about and appreciation for diversity necessary to the realization of an enlightened and educated citizenry.

**SPRING 2012 Diversity Caucus Calendar**

**Diversity Fare**  HLC 109
A new lunchtime panel discussion series includes the following topics:

**March 22**
2:00-3:15 p.m.  Spotlight on African Americans in the Civil War, featuring Public Safety Lieutenant Reynaldo Rodriguez

**March 30**
12:00-1:30 p.m.  Ability and Disability as Social Constructs

**April 27**
12:00-1:30 p.m.  Stand Against Racism
New Faculty and Staff

On January 3, Administrative Services welcomed Lisa Schlegel as Assistant Comptroller. Ms. Schlegel brings over 20 years of finance and accounting experience, including eight years experience in higher education at Quinsigamond Community College and the College of the Holy Cross. Most recently she has been responsible for all financial and accounting functions of the Worcester Historical Museum. Ms. Schlegel earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Assumption College, and a Master of Business Administration degree from Fitchburg State College.

On January 3, Enrollment and Student Services welcomed Kevin Butler as Assistant Dean of Students. Mr. Butler brings over 14 years experience in both public and private higher education in a broad range of student service related areas, including Assistant Director of Multicultural Affairs at Saint Michael’s College, VT; Area Director at Bryant College, RI; Disability Services Coordinator, Director of New Student Orientation, and Associate Dean of Student Services at Wesleyan University, CT; and most recently as Dean of Student Conduct at Providence College, RI. Mr. Butler earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts from Saint Michael’s College, VT, and a Master of Fine Arts in Theatrical Studies from the University of North Carolina.

On January 3, Community Engagement welcomed the Reverend Karen-Louise Rucks as Director of Grant Development. Ms. Rucks brings a wealth of grant development, strategic planning, project management, organizational development, conflict resolution/negotiation, fiscal and budget management to this position. She comes to QCC from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Services in Springfield, MA, where she served as Vice President of Program Operations for five years, managing multiple programs and an operating budget of $3,000,000. Prior to that, she served as the Executive Director of The Council of Churches of Greater Springfield for five years. Earlier in her career, she worked for nearly ten years at the MA Department of Developmental Services as Assistant EEO Administrator for Regions I and II. She has taught as an Adjunct Professor of Philosophy and Comparative Religion at Holyoke Community College, and has worked as consultant to small non-profit organizations and grassroots organizations for 10+ years. Ms. Rucks received her Bachelor of Science degree in Therapeutic Recreation, Education and Community Analysis from Temple University and both a Master of Arts degree in Religious Studies from Hartford Seminary and a Master of Divinity (Theology and Ethics) from the Boston University School of Theology.

On February 6, Enrollment and Student Services welcomed Joshua Cole as Assistant Manager of Athletics and Fitness Center. Mr. Cole brings over six years experience in fitness in both public and private schools. He has coached men’s and women’s soccer at Assumption College and trained with the New England Revolution Soccer Team for one year. Most recently Mr. Cole was the Athletic Director at the Fay School in Southborough. He earned his Bachelor of Psychology at Assumption College and his Masters degree in Athletic Administration at Endicott College.

Welcome All and Congratulations!

Wyvern Alert
A plush Wyvern was caught at Falmouth Heights Beach, Falmouth, enjoying a windy, winter beach day.