One-Stop Registration Spring 2012 Traffic Steady

One-Stop Registration at the HLC from January 9 - 13 was a success, with steady traffic throughout the event’s five-day schedule.

Institutional Communications installed new directional signage that kept the flow of traffic moving from one station to the next with ease, while over 25 part- and full-time Advisors saw up to 400 students per day during the event.

Multiple offices across campus are all called upon to contribute to the success of the event - Advising, the Registrar’s Office, Admissions, Financial Aid, the Payment Center, and more, as well as numerous volunteers and other faculty and staff that are all integral parts of the One-Stop concept. Additionally, Advising services remain at the HLC until the end of the add/drop period to accommodate students who need to make last minute and necessary changes to their schedules.

Hundreds of students were successfully accommodated during this bi-annual event. It’s a hectic and lively atmosphere for students and staff alike.

Students Find the Albanian Connection at QCC

Lou Pero, QCC advisor and faculty member has found an unusual niche for himself. Mr. Pero, a Worcester native, is a second generation Albanian, completely fluent in the language. With the Albanian population steadily on the rise in Worcester, Mr. Pero has increasingly been sought out by Albanian students for his assistance, and has become the de facto Go-to-Guy for QCC’s Albanian population. He estimates that there are currently between 15,000 - and 20,000 Albanians in Worcester - the second largest minority in the city after the Hispanic population - and somewhere between 200 and 300 Albanian students per year enrolled at QCC. (Most of whom he’s helped!)

Mr. Pero observed recently that QCC has always been a microcosm, serving a diverse student population. One of the reasons QCC can successfully manage this is because of the diversity that is also represented in faculty and staff who are eager to assist their compatriots.

Mr. Pero retired from the Worcester Public School System after a distinguished 37-year career, yet felt he still needed to make a contribution. After eight years with QCC, he is indeed making a contribution, helping Albanian (and other) students navigate the system, translating and always encouraging students to persevere.

\[\text{Punë të mbazë zoti Pero! Shumë faleminderit!}\]
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 February e-newsletter is February 10, 2012.

American Association for Respiratory Care Recognizes QCC Student!

As a second-year Respiratory Care student, Michelle McGarry was assigned a 30-hour Senior project that included a community service element. Ms. McGarry chose to write informative and self-help articles about Respiratory issues such as Smoking Cessation and Asthma, which she then pitched to local Senior Centers as material for in-house newsletters. One of her Senior Center contacts thought the material should be published to a wider audience and succeeded in having the Leominster Champion pick up several of Ms. McGarry’s articles. Two of her articles were published by the Leominster Champion when the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) found them and subsequently highlighted Ms. McGarry in their “Good Press - AARC Members in the News” column: http://www.aarc.org/headlines/12/good_press/01/16/index.cfm?utm_source=newsnow&utm_medium=enews&utm_campaign=newsnow, along with Program Director, Karen Kaletski Dufault. The Leominster Champion will publish all nine of Ms. McGarry’s Senior project articles by May.


Ms. Dufault has since received kudos from Paul Nuccio, the Director of Pulmonary Services at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, thanking her for encouraging student activism and community service. Mr. Nuccio was so impressed with Ms. McGarry’s article that he sent the information to the Editor of Pneumonics - the Massachusetts Society for Respiratory Care (MSRC) newspaper for publication.

Dr. Benway Presents at DHE-Sponsored Conference

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education (DHE) is sponsoring the Advancing a Massachusetts Culture of Assessment (AMCOA) Regional Conference on February 9. The conference brings faculty and staff together to share how student learning outcomes are assessed across the disciplines and how results are used at the department, program or General Education/Core level to promote student learning and success. It will also provide opportunities for collegial conversations about topics central to the Vision Project including current and potential Massachusetts LEAP initiatives.

The purpose of the Advancing a Massachusetts Culture of Assessment (AMCOA) project is to engage Massachusetts public higher education institutions and the Department of Higher Education (DHE) in a series of collaborative activities designed to improve student learning by strengthening learning outcomes assessment throughout the Commonwealth.

Dr. Gaelan Benway, QCC Professor of Sociology, will present the outstanding work being done at QCC. Her presentation is entitled: Faculty-Driven General Education Outcomes in a Community College Setting. To register for the event please visit the online registration site at: http://feb9amcoaconf.eventbrite.com.
PTK News

Reminder: The PTK Bowl-A-Thon to benefit the Jimmy Fund and the Audio Journal is just around the corner! This spring, the Bowl-A-Thon has been scheduled for Sunday, April 1, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the AMF Bowling Center in Auburn, MA, with registration beginning at 2:30. Admission is $25 per person and includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental and lunch. There will also be various raffles during the event.

Wyvern Alert

A plush Wyvern was caught studying Human Anatomy as the new Spring 2012 Semester begins!
QCC Volunteers Man Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site for Fifth Year!

For the fifth consecutive year, Carol Murphy, Accounting Professor, and her volunteer team of QCC students and graduates, will offer free tax assistance for low-income residents of the community. The free program, called the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), is hosted by the Main South Community Development Corporation (CDC) at 875 Main Street, Worcester. The program is IRS certified. QCC volunteers assist eligible residents with free E-Filing, opening bank accounts, and achieving fast refunds.

A kick-off event was held on January 27 with Charter TV3 coverage. After the formal program, Ms. Murphy was asked to demonstrate the tax assistance software for officials in attendance from Washington, D.C. including George Sheldon, Acting Assistant Secretary for Children and Families at the US Department of Health & Human Services, and Debra Holland, Deputy Commissioner of Wage and Investment at the IRS, as well as several other Washington D.C. officials who were in Worcester to help kick off the new filing season.

The program is highly successful; in 2007 and 2008 combined, it netted over $545,000 in tax refunds for residents!

Congratulations to Ms. Murphy and her dedicated volunteers who make it possible for many low-income residents to receive refunds they may otherwise never see!

Massachusetts Women in Public Higher Education Announces Spring Conference

The Massachusetts Women in Public Higher Education (MWPHE) will hold its annual Spring Conference at Spinelli’s Restaurant, Lynnfield, MA on Friday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m. Guest Speaker, Suzanne Benoit, LCSW, SPHR, will present: Toxic Behavior in the Workplace - Interactions with Toxic Employees.

To register, go to: http://www.mwphe.org/conferencesandevents/spring2012registration.html. Registration is $55 for members, $65 for non-members and includes continental breakfast, lunch, guest speaker, raffles, elections, presentation for Student Achievement Awards and Professional Development Awards for each state college sector.

The MWPHE is also currently seeking a campus coordinator for QCC. Duties include:
• Participate as a pro-team member of the MWPHE Executive Board
• Provide updated information to the Campus Coordinator Liaison
• Maintain an active campus membership list
• and more!

For a complete description or more information, contact Sheryl Tardie at 508.854.7458 or stardie@qcc.mass.edu

Application Deadline from Staff Development

The deadline for submitting all requests for Staff Development FY ’12 funding (e.g., professional development travel funding, tuition reimbursement, etc.) is Wednesday, February 22, 2012. All requests must be received in the Staff Development Office (room 114 Ahlforrs Hall or mailbox #162) no later than 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 22.

All funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis only until all professional development funds are depleted. Please note that timely submission of a professional development request does not guarantee approval of funding. All applicants will receive notification, in writing, of the status of their request by March 22.

For questions, please contact Erica Merrill in the Center for Academic Excellence at emerrill@qcc.mass.edu or 508.854.4229.
New Faculty and Staff

In December, President Carberry announced the appointment of Steve Marini as Interim Vice President of Administrative Services. His appointment took effect on January 15. Mr. Marini has over 25 years experience in business and technology within the public and private sector, has been teaching business courses for the University of Phoenix for the past 11 years, and prior to his Interim appointment, he was serving in Academic Affairs as Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs / Site Exploration for Distance Learning. Mr. Marini earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Emmanuel College, and an Master of Science Degree in Quality Management from Anna Maria College.

On January 9, Community Engagement welcomed Jennifer Freeman as Project Manager, MACCWDTA. Ms. Freeman has extensive experience in the planning and management of higher education and workforce development initiatives, with expertise in college and industry partnerships; career pathway development; and models to increase community college retention and success among nontraditional learners. For the past thirteen years, Jennifer has been the principal of Freeman Consulting, where she has supported leaders of more than 30 organizations, public agencies, and collaborations. Ms. Freeman holds a Master of Science in Public Affairs from the McCormack Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Massachusetts and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

On January 15, Academic Affairs welcomes Meghan McCrillis as Assistant Professor of Nurse Education, PNP. Ms. McCrillis is a registered Nurse and has been an adjunct faculty member at QCC and Worcester State College since 2009. Prior to that she served as the Staff Development Coordinator/Assistant Director of Nursing Services at The Meadows of Leicester. Ms. McCrillis earned a BSN at Worcester State College, and both an MSN and Ph.D. in Education from Walden University.

On January 17, Administrative Services welcomed Kathy Uribe into her new role as Assistant Payroll Director. Ms. Uribe brings into her new role over 20 years of payroll and Human Resource administration experience in the public and private sector, including 8 years in the QCC Payroll Office.

On January 17, Administrative Services welcomed Skip Markarian as Maintainer I. Mr. Markarian brings over 20 years of carpentry, plumbing, electrical, roofing and siding experience from the private sector, and most recently has served as a part-time employee within the QCC Facilities Department.

On January 17, Administrative Services welcomes Beth Cleveland as Student Accounts Manager. Ms. Cleveland brings over 20 years experience in financial reporting, analysis and auditing from both the public and private sector, with her most recent experience serving with the Hanover Insurance Group. Ms. Cleveland earned a Bachelor of Science Degree with a Business Accounting Concentration from Worcester State College.

On January 18, Administrative Services welcomed Robert Morley as Maintainer I. Mr. Morley brings 9 years of housekeeping experience from the public and private sector, and most recently served with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

On January 20, Academic Affairs welcomes Cathy Keefe as Lead Teacher, Children’s School. Ms. Keefe has been an adjunct faculty member at QCC since 2001 and brings over 23 years experience in early childhood education. Ms. Keefe has worked as a Child Care Director at the YMCA in Southbridge for over 9 years. In previous years she has been a teacher responsible for the curriculum of an integrated preschool serving children with special needs. Ms. Keefe earned an Associates Degree in Child Development at Merritt College in Oakland, CA, a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood at Worcester State College and a Master’s Degree in Education at Cambridge College, Springfield.

Congratulations, all!