Governor Patrick Announces MA Life Sciences Grant at QCC

On March 6 in QCC’s packed HLC Living Room, Governor Deval Patrick made a notable announcement to award QCC with just under $500,000 from a Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MSLC) capital grant. QCC is one of two grant recipients in Central MA that were announced at the event.

President Gail E. Carberry, said of the grant, “we are thrilled to be able to continue the work we have undertaken to fortify our STEM Programming. Our new QuESt Center (Quinsigamond Engineering, Science and Technology) will be the immediate beneficiary of the funding but our students will reap the ultimate rewards when they graduate and take their places in the MA economy as some of the newest and brightest leaders in the STEM fields. We are grateful to Governor Patrick and the Massachusetts legislature for recognizing the importance of life sciences and for allowing Quinsigamond Community College the opportunity to continue leading the way in educational programming.”

Through the MLSC, Massachusetts is investing $1 billion over 10 years in the growth of the state’s life sciences ecosystem. These investments are being made under the Massachusetts Life Sciences Initiative, proposed by Governor Patrick in 2007, passed by the State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Patrick in 2008.

President Carberry presented the Governor with QCC’s mascot, the Wyvern, who rested comfortably with the Governor during the remainder of the event.

Speakers at the event also included MSLC General Counsel and Vice President for Academic and Workforce Programs, Beth Nicklas, Mount Wachusett Community College President, Daniel Asquino, Ph.D., QCC student speaker, Jose Cruz and MWCC student speaker, Jenna Bonci.
QCC is Full STEaM Ahead!

New Directions in Arts Programming at QCC

On Wednesday, March 19, QCC hosted an Art Exhibit Reception in the North Wing of the Administration Building. The reception celebrated QCC’s renewed commitment to arts education with an exciting programming announcement delivered by Dr. Gail Carberry that QCC plans to merge art programs with STEM Education, putting the “a” in STEaM!

Dr. Clarence “Chip” Ates, Dean of the School of Humanities and Education told attendees that a Visual and Performing Arts program is currently in the works with an internal advisory committee preparing curriculum for a soft launch in fall 2014. The goal is to launch a full Visual and Performing Arts Program by 2016.

The reception showcased artwork from a recent, juried competition of students, faculty, alumni and staff, many of whom were on hand to enjoy the celebration. Entertainment was provided by QCC’s own Jose Castillo on guitar and The Burncoat High School string quartet.

QCC recognizes that the arts are critical for a well-rounded education and is forging full STEaM ahead!

STEaM is:
S - Science
T - Technology
E - Engineering
a - ARTS
M - Mathematics

Lynn Cohen and her piece Karmic Question: What did you learn this time?
Daniel Persiantsev and his piece Bliss In To Music
Brian Wanjugu and his piece The Rose
On March 14, QCC hosted its third annual corporate breakfast for an audience of corporate guests, local entrepreneurs, legislators and QCC faculty and staff. The discussion topic centered on entrepreneurship in the local community.

QCC Board of Trustees Stacey DeBoise Luster welcomed attendees followed by greetings from Senator Michael Moore and Worcester City Manager, Ed Augustus. QCC President Dr. Gail Carberry spoke about QCC’s entrepreneurial mindset and updated attendees on recent events at the College. A panel of local entrepreneurs joined discussion with Dr. Steve Budd, Acting VP for Community Engagement, moderated by Scott Rossiter, formerly of Lampin Corporation. Panelists include Kathy Barron, Accurate Resource Group; Eric Dunphy, Vital EMS; Carrie Johnson, QCC Adjunct Professor, Journalist, Author, Entrepreneur; and Ron Josephson, Power-Guide Marketing. The program closed with remarks from Laurance S. Morrison, President of the QCC Foundation and Susan Mailman, Chair of the QCC RISE Campaign.

The breakfast was planned, managed and provided by QCC Hospitality and Recreation Management students at the Worcester Senior Center.
Jodi LeBel Christian Named to MA Department of Higher Education's “29 Who Shine” Program

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education has named their 2014 “29 Who Shine” Honorees. Congratulations to QCC's Jodi LeBel Christian for her selection as a representative of QCC. (This is the fourth year for the MA program that recognizes outstanding students who represent each of the 29 public campuses.)

A Navy veteran, Ms. Christian has been a member of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) since fall 2010, becoming Vice President of Leadership and most recently, President. Under Ms. Christian’s presidency, the international honor society chapter advanced to the prestigious 5-Star Chapter rating for the first time in its history at QCC.

Honorees are selected based on academic achievements and their record of student leadership and community service. Students are also selected as those who stand poised to contribute to the civic life and economic well-being of the state.

Along with Ms. Christian’s scholastic achievements, her accomplishments and contributions to community service are numerous: She began a basic PC course at the Worcester Public Library for the Central Mass Housing Alliance in the spring 2012, teaching homeless and domestic abuse survivors about the importance of regaining their independence. For the past 30 years, she has helped feed the homeless in Boston on Thanksgiving, with her two sons. This year she organized the members of PTK to volunteer at the Veteran’s Inc. Shelter on Grove Street in Worcester, organizing 50 students over the week of Thanksgiving to help prepare the veteran’s Thanksgiving feast and to serve the food on Thanksgiving Day.

A ceremony at the State House in Boston is planned for all “29 Who Shine” honorees.

Honors and Awards Reminder

To all faculty and staff: Please be aware that the deadline to nominate students for Honors and Awards recognition is due to Student Life on April 18.

This year the ceremony is scheduled for May 14 at Mechanics Hall. On-line forms are available for Distinguished Service, Special Recognition and Department Awards with links below. (The Who’s Who Award has already been completed.)

Please keep in mind the following for nominations:

1. To be eligible for a Distinguished Service and Special Recognition Awards, the nominee must be completing a certificate program or graduating from a degree program for the 2013-2014 academic year.

2. Department Awards are paid through the academic department cost center. Therefore, the form must be signed by the Dean or Associate Dean. All forms for the Department Award submitted to the Office of Student Life will be forwarded to the Dean of Instruction for a signature.

Department Award: www.QCC.edu/department-award

Distinguished Service Award: www.QCC.edu/distinguished-award

Special Recognition Award: www.QCC.edu/special-recognition

For more information, questions, or concerns contact Jonathon Miller ext. 4334 or e-mail jmill@qcc.mass.edu.
The Guardians Get Social!

Check out www.facebook.com/50Guardians and catch up on all the Guardian news.

Two of QCC’s new Guardians, Ron Josephson and Iris Cotto, talk about what it means to be a Guardian.

Visit www.50guardians.com and check out our video gallery to learn more about the Guardians and their stories.

LIKE US AT facebook.com/50Guardians
QCC Joins *Get Skills to Work* Coalition to Help Transitioning Veterans

The School of Business, Engineering and Technology announced that it has joined the *Get Skills to Work* (GSTW) coalition, in collaboration with GE, Alcoa, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, The Manufacturing Institute, and over 500 manufacturers. QCC’s participation in the initiative will further expand training opportunities for U.S. veterans in advanced manufacturing.

**Kathy Rentsch**, Dean of the School of Business, Engineering and Technology said recently, “The advanced manufacturing sector in central Massachusetts is vibrant and looking to grow its highly skilled technical workforce. Veterans possess many related technical skills as well as the conscientious attitude that sets a great employee apart from his or her peers. QCC is committed to providing our veterans with as many opportunities as possible to get skills and get to work and we believe our involvement with this national coalition furthers that commitment.”

With hundreds of thousands of open jobs, the manufacturing industry can play a key role in helping veterans return to the civilian workforce. However, according to a recent report ([www.QCC.edu/veteran-opportunity](http://www.QCC.edu/veteran-opportunity)) by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF), there are currently 1.9 million unemployed veterans nationwide, and more than 69 percent of veterans cite “finding a job” as the greatest challenge to transitioning back to the civilian world.

With support from its partners and growing member base, the GSTW program will help 15,000 veterans translate military experience to corresponding advanced manufacturing opportunities. The coalition is seeking additional partners and has set a goal of hiring 100,000 veterans by 2015.

For more information on the coalition, visit: [www.QCC.edu/getskillstowork](http://www.QCC.edu/getskillstowork).

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QCC Staff and Students Attend National TRIO Day Celebration

TRIO Student Services staff (**Denise Means**, **Ricky Frazier** and **Joseph Adams**) and students attended National TRIO Day in Framingham on February 22. National TRIO Day is a day of celebration, reflection and action around increased access to higher education for disadvantaged students.

11 QCC students (pictured right) attended the event which included a college fair.

*Left to right: Yared Kumssa, Antoinette Ansong, Khadine Popo, Leona Comeau, Ato Howard, Khandis Johnson, Sarah Fixon-Owoo, Marcy Johnson, Augustine Kanjia, Ebenezer Fixon-Owoo*
QCC’s STEM Starter Academy is on Track for Success

In November, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts released version 2.0 of its STEM initiative. (STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.) STEM Plan 2.0, *Expanding the Pipeline for All*, was designed to provide increased focus on equitable opportunities and preparation for students studying for careers within STEM fields. There are 4 major areas of concentration within STEM Plan 2.0:

1. Reduction of gaps in achievement, interest, and skills.
2. Continued focus on creating and maintaining a skilled STEM educator workforce.
3. Explore diverse and innovative instructional strategies to promote the teaching and learning of STEM.
4. Increasing scale of programs across the Commonwealth.

QCC was awarded $300,000 to support this initiative. Using this money, QCC has formed the STEM Starter Academy (SSA) to put forth a strategic effort to increase the number of students, particularly women and those from underrepresented groups pursuing a study in STEM fields and who are preparing for entry into four-year baccalaureate programs and/or related career pathways. QCC’s Stem Starter Academy reflects the intention of the Massachusetts legislation to advance excellence in STEM Education. The project goals include:

1. Increased student awareness and access to STEM programs of study and career opportunities.
2. Enhanced student readiness for and recruiting into STEM pathway programs.
3. Improved student retention based on academic success and overcoming “life barriers”.
4. Increased completion through award of certificates or degrees and pathways to STEM jobs or transfer to higher level STEM academic programs.

Currently, QCC’s STEM Starter Academy has several projects either already ongoing or soon to be implemented. Included among these projects are a page on the QCC website dedicated to STEM; Summer Bridge Programs for both high school students and QCC students who have completed some of their classes, and an on-campus STEM lecture series to provide opportunities for students to become familiar with some of the jobs for which a STEM background can prepare them. Save the dates for two upcoming lectures scheduled for April 2 and April 28 at the main QCC location (670 West Boylston Street, Worcester). Additional information on these lectures is forthcoming.
Classroom Shoot a Success!

Institutional Communications would like to thank all Faculty, Staff and Students who participated in the recent classroom photo shoot. The day-long shoot was a great success! The goal to update IC’s photo data base with current students and faculty shots for marketing purposes is near completion. A second round is in the planning stages, so if IC missed your department or classroom, we’ll be contacting you soon.
QCC’s Scholar Athletes Excel On and Off Court!

Congratulations to QCC’s Men’s and Women’s Basketball Teams for putting up impressive numbers on and off-court. While the Men’s and Women’s Wyverns battle it out during their regular season, they have also been hard at work keeping an impressive academic fall 2013 semester.

The Men’s team finished with an overall average GPA of 3.1, while the Women finished with an overall average of 2.8. **GO TEAMS!**

Lean Manufacturing Timewise Event Held at QCC

March 6 and 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. students in the manufacturing technology program and faculty attended the Lean Manufacturing Timewise Event at the HLC.

The workshops featured key experiential simulations designed to bridge the gap between theory and practice. Simulations were provided in two accelerated one-day workshops with the goal of empowering participants with an understanding of Lean concepts through a series of interactive presentations and team-based simulation activities by Time Wise facilitators. The event was sponsored by the School of Business, Engineering and Technology.

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society News

Congratulations to PTK’s 2013-2014 Officer Team for leading PTK to the coveted Five-Star Chapter status again! Only FIVE chapters out of 57 in Massachusetts have achieved this level.

PTK officers are:
- **Kennedy Udechukwu**, President
- **Britnie Campaniello**, Vice President of Scholarship
- **Jodi Christian**, Vice President of the Five Star Chapter
- **Natassia Yahoub**, Assistant to the Vice President of the Five Star Chapter
- **Jesse Mason**, Public Relations Officer
- **Chad Bleakney** and **Amy Pierce** who ran the Faculty/Staff Appreciation event

Using the Five Star Chapter Plan as a guide to success, chapters can enhance their working relationship with the college administration by becoming active on the campus and in the community, learning critical skills in the importance of deadlines and organization. The strength of PTK is determined by the achievements of chapters on the local level. Recognition for these achievements provides reinforcement and encourages a recommitment to chapter goals.

- PTK will induct its newest members on Wednesday, April 2 at 7 p.m. in the Hebert Auditorium. Contact Bonnie Coleman in the PTK office (Room 154 A) or by email to bcoleman@qcc.mass.edu for more information.
• **Save the Date:**
  On Sunday April 6, PTK's Alpha Zeta Theta Chapter will hold its 6th Annual Bowl-A-Thon for the Jimmy Fund, “Rally Against Cancer” at AMF Auburn Lanes from 12:00 noon – 5 p.m. Registration is from 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. Don’t miss out on the fun - Raffles, Bowling, Pizza, and more! (Raffle tickets are available to purchase now in the PTK Office, room 154A and the list of prizes is extensive! All proceeds benefit the Jimmy Fund.)

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**QCC Theatre Club Announces**

*Lend me a Tenor*

Don't miss the Theatre Club's spring production of *Lend Me a Tenor* by Ken Ludwig (Directed by John Deedy).

**Show dates:** April 16, 17, 18 and 19 - 7:00 p.m. at the Hebert Auditorium
General Admission: $5
American Sign Language interpreted Performance on Thursday, April 17.

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**Save the Dates**

You are cordially invited to attend...

**STEM Lecture Series**

**Wednesday, April 2 & Monday, April 28**
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
HLC 109B

*For further information, please contact Lisa Whitcomb at lwhitcomb@qcc.mass.edu*

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**QCC Welcomes New Staff**

On March 3, 2014, Strategic Enrollment Development and Student Engagement welcomed **Alba Rivera** into a new role as Clerk III – Disability Services. Ms. Rivera has served the College for the past year as a Clerical Assistant for Veteran Affairs and as a Note Taker for Disability Services. In addition, she brings 2 years of experience as a Childcare Site Coordinator in the private sector, as well as service in both the United States Army and Army Reserve, where she is currently a Platoon Sergeant. Ms. Rivera earned an Associate’s Degree in Criminal Justice from Quinsigamond Community College.

*Please join us in welcoming Ms. Rivera into her new role at QCC!*

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**Have an interesting story to tell?**

[www.QCC.edu/submit-news](http://www.QCC.edu/submit-news)

Deadline for the April 2014 *Guardian* is Friday, April 11.