Commencement 2014

The largest graduating class in QCC’s history, **1,374 students**, was awarded degrees or certificates at the end of this academic year, doubling the number of graduates since President Carberry began her tenure in 2006. Approximately 700 students attended graduation at the DCU Center, Worcester, on May 22, making the long-anticipated “walk” across the stage to receive a diploma in front of family and friends.

President Gail Carberry welcomed attendees and congratulated all graduates on their achievement. Student Senate President, Katharine Warner delivered student greetings, telling fellow graduates, “QCC has prepared us to be leaders and now it’s time to do that – Be leaders!” Sandra Laney, PhD., Program Officer for Global Health, Discovery & Translational Sciences at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and QCC alum, delivered an inspirational Commencement address.

Congratulations to all 2014 graduates!
Governor Patrick Makes $2 Million Grant Announcement in South County

Governor Deval Patrick paid a visit to South County on May 12 to announce $2 million in advanced manufacturing equipment grants to support the creation of QCC’s new Innovation Technology Assistance Center (ITAC) in Southbridge.

At INCOM USA in Charlton, the governor made the official grant award announcement saying, “It’s a great day for all manufacturers in the region.” The grant will be used specifically for equipment to outfit QCC’s new ITAC Center, an advanced manufacturing training center that will become an expansion of the QCC Southbridge location. QCC in collaboration with local manufacturers, the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MMEP) and Fitchburg State University, will address the need for skilled manufacturing professionals by expanding educational opportunities for area residents. Fitchburg State University will assist in the effort by offering transfer articulation agreements for bachelor degrees in Advanced Manufacturing.

President Gail Carberry said, “QCC is pleased to be in collaboration with public and private partnerships to provide access to advanced training in the innovative technology fields that are in high demand in our area. This strategic investment will help us continue our mission to ensure that people in our community have access to the education and training they need to get good jobs and that employers have access to an educated workforce.”

TRIO Student Support Services Celebrates Graduates

On May 2, TRIO Student Support Services held a recognition event in the TRIO Office Suite to honor 2014 graduates of the program. Vice President of Academic Affairs, Pat Toney, greeted the attendees and Joseph Adams, Director of the TRIO Student Support Services Program made heartfelt remarks, telling the graduates of his pride in their achievements and that they are QCC family and will always be welcomed back.

Congratulations to TRIO Graduates:

Beatrice Kayigwa, first generation college-student has been accepted to Fitchburg State University for the Fall 2014 Semester.

TRIO Student Support Services is a federally funded program that provides first generation, economically disadvantaged college students, and students with disabilities the support and services needed to achieve academic success.
Psi Beta Inducts Eight New Members; Wraps Up a Busy Academic Year

The Psi Beta National Honor Society and the Psychology Club, advised by Valarie Clemente, Ed.D, Associate Professor of Psychology, have had a busy and productive year that included:

• Staffing and raising funds for the annual Walk to Prevent Suicide in September (an annual commitment for several years now.)

• Active involvement with the Dynamy program for at risk high school students that included:

• Hosting a celebratory dinner for a group of students who developed their own mentoring program (with donated dinner items from area businesses, and home cooked dishes by QCC student members.) QCC students served and spoke at the dinner event. In addition, each Dynamy student was provided with a gift card and certificate, which required significant fundraising efforts, and was initiated and directed by the Psi Beta president, Bev Pettiford.

• Hosting two guest speakers from Clark University

• Hosting the film, “Anonymous People” on addictions, with guest speaker from Spectrum. (These events are open to the entire QCC community and attendance ranged from 120 to 40 people per event.)

• Inducting 14 new Psi Beta members in December. One of Psi Beta’s primary objectives is to continue membership growth.

• In the Spring 2014 Semester, we hosted three speakers: Katie Frazier, a Clark University doctoral student, a group of UMass/Mt. Holyoke undergrad students and Gregory Quenneville, of the Worcester Vet’s Center. (One of the members wrote an article about the Frazier presentation which was featured on the front page of the Open Door.)

• Organized and ran a fundraiser selling Yankee Candle products, allowing Psi Beta to make donations to the Boston Firefighters’ Fund, Abby’s House of Worcester and Spring House/ Casa Verna of Berlin.

• Hosted a table at Spring Fling to educate students about our organizations.

• Organized a fundraiser at Papa Gino’s for funds to support additional charitable activities.

• Inducted eight new members to Psi Beta this spring, (photo above) with approximately 25 students receiving regalia at the Honors and Awards ceremony in May for 2014 Commencement.

Psi Beta members include students from various disciplines at QCC, including computer science, engineering, math, biotechnology, biology, nursing, human services, as well as psychology.
SABES Holds Career Readiness Night

On March 18, 2014, QCC’s System for Adult Basic Education Support (SABES) held its College and Career Readiness for a Night event for students from Central MA adult basic education (ABE) programs funded by the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This yearly QCC event provides opportunities for many ABE students to take their first step onto a college campus and to learn about education, training and career pathways to a better future. There were three components to the evening:

1. A Student Panel: Three student panelists who had successfully transitioned from ABE programs to enrollment at QCC captivated the audience by relating their experiences, challenges and successes. Their insights, examples and advice were a highlight for many. The ABE students discovered they don’t need to be afraid to go to college or to ask questions, they’re not too old and it’s never too late, and that they can manage difficulties using the wonderful people and resources at QCC to provide support.

2. Admissions and Financial Aid Presentations: Power point presentations by Admissions and Financial Aid staff provided an overview of key steps to take which was followed by questions from the audience.

3. Tailored Class Sessions: Each student attended two pre-selected class sessions which included:
   - Applied Arts
   - Early Childhood Education Hospitality/Restaurant Management Marketing Medical Assisting Psychology Phlebotomy/EKG
   - New this year, classes were also offered in:
     - Biotechnology
     - Criminal Justice
     - Manufacturing
     - Robotics
     - Starting Your Own Business

QCC instructors gave an overview of the particular field and corresponding educational requirements, and engaged the students with hands-on activities.

192 ABE students plus 29 ABE instructors, advisors and program directors attended. Feedback on the evening was enthusiastically positive.

Retirement Recognition

On May 5, the QCC Family wished Barbara Bechan farewell at an event in her honor in room 107A. Ms. Bechan spent 24 years as a part-time employee and integral part of QCC’s team to provide accommodations and service support for students with disabilities.

On May 22 in the HLC, the QCC Family honored recently retired/retiring employees at the annual Retirement Recognition Event: Ruth Cole, Joseph Hutton, John LeFave, Linda Poisson, James Rice, Brenda Marshall and Patricia Solitro.
Guardians Update

As part of QCC’s on-going 50th Anniversary celebration, 50 exemplary alums who have distinguished themselves as guardian protectors in their communities will be identified and honored. The first ten have been named and can be found online at: [www.QCC.edu/guardians](http://www.QCC.edu/guardians) or in the Admin Building Art Gallery Hallway.

The next group of 10 Guardians were identified and named by President Gail Carberry at Commencement. They are:

- **John Creedon, Sr.**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1976
- **Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1968
- **Juan A. Gomez**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1988
- **Robert Johnson,**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1983
- **Nafisa Kabani**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1989
- **Uchenna Onuzulike**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 2003
- **Wayne Sampson**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1981
- **Deborah Vires**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1978
- **Adrienne Walsh**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1976
- **Jeanne Lynch**  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Class of 1974

In-depth profiles will be available soon. To nominate a guardian, go to: [www.QCC.edu/guardians](http://www.QCC.edu/guardians)

Energy Utility Fair

On Wednesday, May 7, the Energy Utility Technology (EUT) Program held its 7th Annual EUT Energy Fair in Room 111AC (Athletic Center). Students in the EUT program presented final projects, facilitated by **Sharron Gillies**, Professor and Coordinator of the EUT program. The exhibits were open for public viewing between 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

This year, students from Manufacturing Technology also presented a group project at the fair for which they had to defend to a panel of manufacturing professionals.
Brothers and Keepers

CALLING ALL MALE FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS!

We are proud to formally announce a new program called Brothers & Keepers. Brothers & Keepers is an innovative, male mentoring initiative designed to increase the retention and educational success of the male students at Quinsigamond Community College (QCC). Participants in Brothers & Keepers will work with peers, faculty, and staff to learn how to successfully navigate the college experience and to prepare for life, work, and education after QCC.

The Brothers & Keepers Program Advisors would love to have willing volunteers step up to become Faculty/Staff Mentors. Research suggests male mentors have proven to be effective for a variety of reasons in male mentoring initiatives. Currently, we are seeking mentors to help us for the 2014-15 academic year. Please note, mentoring in this program is strictly on a volunteer basis and no compensation will be given. Joining the Brothers & Keepers program is both an exceptional honor and a rewarding opportunity for personal and professional growth. Mentors will help to fulfill the mission of the Brothers & Keepers program through our strong commitment to aiding students in their personal, professional, and career development.

As a mentor, you will be expected to make a commitment to being matched with a male mentee(s) and maintain regular and frequent contacts (a minimum of three contacts per semester at least one of these should be a face-to-face exchange), and discuss with students successes and failures while navigating educational, personal and social experiences.

For more information, contact Jonathan Miller at jmiller@qcc.mass.edu

Day of Play

The QCC Children’s School invites families to celebrate the Day of Play:

- Saturday, June 14, 2014 (rain date June 15)
- 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Elm Park, Worcester

The event is free and features many activities for young children including a Creative Arts activity provided by the QCC’s Children’s School. (The activity areas are also looking for volunteer staffing - get involved and enjoy a wonderful day!)

For more information including the schedule of special performances and character visitors such as Fire and Ice, Corduroy the Bear and Queen Elsa from Disney’s Frozen, go to: www.worcesterdayofplay.org.
Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society News

QCC congratulates the many students who graduated recently with PTK honors.

PTK has Community Service Opportunities:

- **Community Harvest Dates**
  - July 19
  - August 2
  - August 9
  - Time: 8:45 a.m. until 12 noon. Cookout provided for all volunteers after each harvest date!

- **Ernie's Car Wash Cards - On sale now!**
  - Stop by the Phi Theta Kappa Office.
  - Don't forget Dads and Grads-this is a great gift for almost any occasion.
  - Cost:
    - Super $13.00
    - Special $8.50

- **Help needed!** Please contact Britnie Campaniello, Vice-President of Scholarship, if you are interested in becoming a co-chair for the annual fall cookout at bcampaniello@qmail.qcc.edu

- **PTK Chapter T-shirts are still available** for purchase in the Phi Theta Kappa office for $15.00 each.

Faculty and Staff Notes

On May 28, 2014, Flo Lucci, D.B.A., PHR, Professor of Management/Marketing will present her findings on the value of study abroad to multinational corporations with regard to hiring recent business graduates. Ms. Lucci will make the presentation at the annual conference of the NASFA: Association of International Educators in San Diego, CA.

NAFSA is an association of individuals worldwide advancing international education, exchange and global workforce development. NAFSA serves international educators and their institutions by setting standards of good practice, providing training and professional development opportunities, networking opportunities, and advocating for international education.

Congratulations to Jennifer Melendez who earned a Master's degree from Framingham State University in Public Administration recently. Ms. Melendez, a professional in the Admissions Office spent three years to complete the degree program. Ms. Melendez will continue to assist potential students with the enrollment process, providing resources for students to achieve their academic goals, while mentoring and using personal experiences to help empower students who often face life challenges while trying to focus on their studies.
Students Dress to Impress!

The QCC Dress to Impress program instituted by Student Life and Leadership is a weekly event to promote professional dress (for business or office careers) designed to prepare students for the competitive workforce, during and after college. Students that choose to participate, dress professionally and have their picture taken by a Fuller Student Center staff member. The Student Senate then votes for the best dressed that week. Winners receive two movie tickets and an invitation to an end-of-the-year special event to celebrate all winners for the academic year.

The Dress to Impress year-end event took place in the Fuller Center on May 15. Winners were presented with awards for their outstanding professional attire. Attendees also enjoyed lunch, prizes and a great time along with the Student Senators and Fuller Student Center staff.

The academic year 2013 – 2014 winners are:

- Gissy Pena (Fall 2013 Week 1)
- Nick Piaracci (Fall 2013 Week 2)
- Cory Cronin (Fall 2013 Week 3)
- Henry Tang (Fall 2013 Week 4)
- Steve Wright (Fall 2013 Week 5)
- Alex Keevan (Fall 2013 Week 6)
- Dan Skebos (Fall 2013 Week 7)
- Dan DuVarney (Fall 2013 Week, Spring 2014 Week 7 & Week 9)
- Thomas Aresenault (Fall 2013 Week 9)
- Khanh Huynh (Spring 2014 Week 1)
- Sabrina Porier (Spring 2014 Week 2)
- Jonathan Noble (Spring 2014 Week 3)
- Yachira DeJesus (Spring 2014 Week 4)
- Shane Penn (Spring 2014 Week 5)
- Antoinette Ansong (Spring 2014 Week 6)
- Chris Laboy (Spring 2014 Week 8)
- Herlis Argueta-Montaivan (Spring 2014 Week 10)
- Haley Doering (Spring 2014 Week 11)

Left to right: Steve Wright, Henry Tang, Yachira DeJesus, Haley Doering, Dan Skebos, Herlis Argueta-Montaivan, Chris Laboy, Antoinette Ansong

Student Success Stories Online!

Have you seen the recent addition to www.QCC.edu? Check out www.QCC.edu/student-success for inspirational stories of QCC students who have made QCC a place of success.

Do you have a student story that needs to be told? www.QCC.edu/submit-news
In the News...

Have you seen or heard QCC President Gail Carberry on radio or TV recently? She has been a recent guest on WCRN AM 830 with host Hank Stolz and QCC Commencement speaker Sandra Laney (see top photo at right).

On Soapbox, WCCA TV Channel 13 with host Mauro DiPasquale and guest Ted Bauer, Manager of Workforce Development for Mass MEP (see bottom photo at right).

And on the Paul Wescott Show, Charter TV3 on May 19.

And upcoming:

Beacon Hill Chat with Harriette Chandler – TBA

And on the Hank Stolz Experience, Charter TV3 on Monday, June 2 – to air at a later date.

(Re-broadcast information is available at www.chartertv3.com and/or www.wccatv.com.)

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NEW, New, new!

Campus Police will introduce a new tool this month to help students, faculty and staff report crime tips anonymously. Called Tip 411, the App should be used for NON-Emergency tips only.

There are two easy ways:

1. Download the FREE App on your Phone - Keyword: “QCC Tip”

2. Text “QCC” + (space) + your tip to 847411

TIP 411 IS NOT AN EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE. All tips are completely ANONYMOUS.
Congratulations to QCC’s Basketball Athlete Scholars

To honor a successful academic semester, on Thursday, May 1, 2014 in the Athletic Center, student athletes were awarded QCC basketball jackets from the Athletics Department. Both the Men’s and Women’s Basketball Teams have done exceptionally well academically, making good use of the Tutoring Centers; a welcoming meet and greet gathering with the tutoring staff helped the athletes to feel at ease. As a team, the Men averaged a GPA of 2.9 and the Women a 2.7.

A special “Thank You” to the Coaches and the Tutoring Staff!

QuEST Center Construction Update!

Steve Marini, Vice President of Administrative Services and CFO reports that construction of the new Quinsigamond Engineering, Science, and Technology Center (QuEST Center) is slated to begin in June.

In preparation, parking spaces in Lot 1 are closed to accommodate the trailer area and construction fencing, taking up about half of the Lot. The overflow Staff and Faculty spaces in Lot 1 will be absorbed into the Administration lots throughout the less populated summer months.

The estimated time frame for construction is June 2014 through January 2016. Construction can begin before all contracts are in place due to QCC acquiring an early start program with DCAMM. As a result, the final schedule for milestone completion has not yet been provided. More information will be provided as soon as it is available and regular updates will be sent out.

The hope is to keep any inconveniences to a minimum. If there are any special access related needs moving forward, please contact Campus Police.

Did you Know?

Professor Robert Gillies is authorized to test FCC Radio License applicants?

Kevin Butler once acted as a Pharmacist in a CVS commercial?

Paula Ogden’s former house in CT is haunted?

Shirley Dempsey drives a Harley Davidson motorcycle?
Healthcare Pinnings

Congratulations to our many healthcare program graduates who celebrated their accomplishments with traditional pinning ceremonies at the QCC West Boylston street location:

- Nurse Education Pinning on May 16
- Radiologic Technology on May 19
- Dental Hygiene and Assisting on May 20

QCC Welcomes New Staff

On May 5, 2014, Academic Affairs welcomed Erin Vickstrom into a new role as Teacher, for the Children’s School. Ms. Vickstrom has been with QCC for the past six years with the Children’s School, first as a Work Study student, then as a Student Teacher and most recently as a Substitute Teacher. She was also a Student Teacher at Shrewsbury Children’s Center and Jewish Community Center. Ms. Vickstrom earned an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education from QCC and a Bachelor’s Degree from Westfield State College.

Effective May 5, 2014, Karole Hager assumed the role of Associate Director of Auxiliary Services in Administrative Services.

Ms. Hager has served the College for the past 17 years, most recently as Inventory Control and Events Manager. She brings extensive knowledge in Auxiliary Services to the position, including the Bookstore, Print Shop, Mail Room, Food Services, Central Receiving, Supplies, Event Management, and Surplus and Inventory Control. Ms. Hager earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration and a Master of Science Degree in Non-Profit Organization from Worcester State University.

Please join us in welcoming Ms. Vickstrom and Ms. Hager into their new roles at QCC!

Starfish Meeting and Workshop Reminder

Starfish EARLY ALERT is an early warning and student tracking system used in higher education to identify at-risk students and provide support and referrals. Starfish CONNECT is a support networking and case management system that facilitates meaningful contact between students, their advisors and instructors, and campus support services. Learn more about Starfish: Attend a meeting or workshop – or both on Thursday, June 12.

Part One - Starfish Retention Solutions
2-3 p.m. - Alfhors - CAE Main Room

Part Two - Hands – On Workshop
3 - 4 p.m. - Faculty: Room 111 Alfhors
Advising: Alfhors CAE – Main Room
Support Services: Room 104 Alfhors

For more information or to rsvp, contact Elsie Newmane at enewmane@qcc.mass.edu by June 4.

Have an interesting story to tell?

www.QCC.edu/submit-news
Deadline for the June 2014 Guardian is Friday, June 16.