

# Campus Update Workforce Development, Continuing Education & Strategic Partnerships

July, 2022

Dear Campus Community,

Please find below some updates and highlights regarding our work within the division in the month of June.

## Center for Career Development & Experiential Learning

The Center is currently planning activities for the fall semester that will engage students in career planning and provide them with tools to develop professionally. If interested in collaborating with the office in Fall 2022, please contact Marisa Joseph at [Marisa.joseph@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:Marisa.joseph@kbcc.cuny.edu).

Thank you to all who promoted the **CUNY Career Launch** summer program to students. Two-hundred and ninety (290) students submitted applications and we look forward to receiving an update in the coming weeks regarding student placements.

The staff is available virtually on Mondays from 10:00 am-12:00 pm and 2:00-4:00 pm here: <https://zoom.us/my/kcccareer>. Otherwise, students should visit Room C-102 or contact via email at [careerdevelopment@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:careerdevelopment@kbcc.cuny.edu) or phone at (718) 368-5115.

## Grants and Awards

In partnership with the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, we are preparing a proposal for **CUNY's Adult and Continuing Education Upskilling Initiative** to train individuals as Community Health Workers and Health Coaches. The goal of this initiative is to boost the number of New Yorkers—CUNY degree and non-degree students, alumni, and the broader NYC population—launching gainful careers and to create inclusive pathways into high-growth fields through industry certifications and credentials. Our Community Health Worker workforce training program was developed through a grant from the US Department of Labor in 2015 and Health Coach was developed in partnership with Community Care of Brooklyn, the New York Alliance for Careers in Healthcare and Maimonides Medical Center in 2016. Since their creation, both have been offered, free to eligible individuals, through numerous grant-funded programs.

## Community Farm and Garden

We are expanding our volunteer days to 5 days a week. We have already planted cucumbers, squash, and started herb seeds. Currently, we have two active service learners and will be promoting this program for the summer and fall. Students who are interested in this service learning project should reach out to [Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu) for more information.

**Chef David Goldberg** is preparing to harvest the wheat and rye planted as part of his research project. The farm grew a bed of Pansy and Viola flowers for **Chef Naxielly Dominguez** to use

for dessert plating as part of the culinary program. These flowers will be available all summer for the next restaurant course.

We are also looking to support faculty in research projects as well as for those looking to host an educational or club event in the space. Contact [Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu) for more information.

### **Student CEWD Scholarship Fund**

We worked with Institutional Advancement to create a "**CEWD Scholarship**" for continuing education and workforce development students. Supporters are able to donate by clicking here: <https://21409.thankyou4caring.org/online-donations> then go to *Designations* and select *Continuing Education "CEWD Scholarship"*. Thank you in advance for your support.

As part of this scholarship, we are accepting student applications for those experiencing financial challenges to pay their tuition. Kindly find the application and eligibility requirements here: <https://forms.gle/vuv6AS9PrrwAaGwP7>

### **Northwell Health Hospitals-Partnership**

We are excited for the renewed partnership with **Northwell Health Hospitals** to provide an externship course for Central Sterile Technician (CST) students. Upon completion of the program, students will be required to obtain CST hands-on clinical experience training within a central processing department in order to be eligible to take the national exam and earn a provisional HSPA certification. This partnership will provide an opportunity for students to enroll in a coordinated externship program to execute the required hands-on hours necessary to test or achieve full CRCST status. Currently, there is an immense need for sterile processing techs across the industry with attractively high wages. Enrollment will begin soon. More details to follow.

### **College Experience/Community Efforts**

The **College Experience** program, facilitated by **Anna Geller**, was executed both virtually and for the first time in person. Our partner, Brooklyn Public Library (Sheepshead Bay branch), marketed the events to the community with a large outreach to members of all ages. We were able to promote the college and all of its credit and non-credit offerings, including OnStage at Kingsborough Summer Nights series. We attended the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Breakfast for Success series. It was a wonderful networking opportunity to connect with business owners and present the college's offerings. Also, we participated in the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Career Fair in Coney Island meeting with residents looking for opportunities to advance their education and careers. Lastly, we attended Mayor Eric Adams event at Gracie Mansion for the Russian speaking community.

### **Conferences/Networking/ Professional Development/New Staff**

**Christine Zagari-LoPorto**, Assistant Dean, was selected as co-chair of the Grants Administration committee for the **New York Community Colleges Energy Equity Consortium**, to advance responsible and equitable grant administration and ensure compliance with grant requirements.

Welcome, **Eve Likourezos**, as a new career advisor. She will assist students with career exploration and professional development in the Center for Career Development and Experiential Learning.

**Jessica Cinelli** attended the Brooklyn Energy Summit, an event hosted by the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. Speakers and panelists discussed the borough's clean energy ecosystem from topics such as clean technology, policy and legislation, small business and entrepreneurship, community engagement, and workforce development. Our presence at these local and regional events show that we are committed to clean energy and, more importantly, advancing employment prospects to people who might not otherwise have considered careers in this fast growing industry.

### **Summer Catalog**

The **Summer Catalog** can be found here: <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/courses.html>. The division successfully hosted our 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer Virtual Open House with more than 50 participants. Check out our catalog [here](#).

For more information, Zoom Virtual Front Desk (<https://zoom.us/j/2151731780> (Monday–Friday, 10:00 am–12:00 pm and 1:00-3:00 pm); Phone: 718-368-5050, or Email: [conted@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:conted@kbcc.cuny.edu).

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Dr. Simone Rodriguez  
Kingsborough Community College, CUNY  
Vice President, Workforce Development, Continuing Education & Strategic Partnerships  
**Interested in learning more about the division? [Click here!](#)**