Retiree Luncheon Awards 20th Scholarship

Scholarship Winner Poh Wan (Vivian) Wong

Poh Wan Wang known as Vivian is an international student who came to the United States from Malaysia. She had completed an associate degree in Malaysia, but she and her parents felt that studying in the United States could lead to higher degrees. Her parents are her only financial support. Vivian went through difficult times learning the language and adjusting to the culture, but she stayed the course, made friends, and is now an active part of the college community, and an outstanding student.

Vivian has wonderful things to say about Kingsborough. She stated that she knows that some people say community colleges are not good places to study, but that is a stereotype. “As a community college student who studies at Kingsborough Community College, I want to stand up for my own college. Kingsborough Community College is really a great college”. Vivian has high praise for the faculty, the staff, the facilities and student life. “The faculty, employees and staff members are always willing to help and try their best to solve student problems. “ She feels that this attitude helps her reach her academic goals.

“I still remember the first time I came to Kingsborough Community College and I saw the slogan on the banner which state that ‘Dream Begins Here’. I think that Kingsborough Community College can be the starting point of my dream. Studying at Kingsborough Community College is one of my wisest decisions and I will never regret that. I wish that after I graduate from here, I can learn what I want to learn and become a useful person to society. Whether I continue to study or not, I will never forget the guidance of every professor in college and everyone who helped me.”

Retiree Happenings

Ed Martin, still teaching part-time at KCC (and visiting his three granddaughters at other times), has had his 30th sole-authored book, Discovering Microsoft Office 2019, published by Wiley.

English Department News

On May 26 a gaggle of retired English/language faculty & Jack’s family and friends, gathered to celebrate Jack Wolkenfeld’s 90th birthday at the home of Jocelyn Camp. It was refreshing to have a reunion for a birthday rather than a funeral. And the weather was great! In attendance were: Jocelyn Camp, John Manbeck, Jeptha Evans, Ben Pacheco. Marcie Babbitt, Inez Martinez, Tana Bigelow, Eva Richter and Joyce Miller.

President Dr. Claudia Schaefer, Vivian, Prof. Cliff Hesse
Kingsborough Spotlights  
Vice-President of College Advancement—Elizabeth Basile

Elizabeth Basile, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, retired September, 2019 after a thirty year career at Kingsborough. Dr. Basile began her career at the college serving as a counselor in the department of Student Affairs. Prior to assuming her current position she served as the director of the COPE Program; Liberty Partnership; New Start; Admission Information Center; Career Development Center; and worked for many years in College Now. In recent years Dr. Basile assumed the position as Vice President of Institutional Advancement leading the philanthropic arm of the College and the KCC Foundation. Under her leadership the Office of Institutional Advancement raised nearly $4 million dollars just this past year. Her work represents the opportunity to enhance the life of numerous students in their pursuit of an education at Kingsborough and enables them to reach their educational goals.

Over the years Dr. Basile has assisted our group in their endeavors to reach out to retirees and enabled those of us who worked at KCC to remain connected to the college. We thank her for her support of our group and congratulate her on a successful career and wish her the very best in her retirement.

Dr. Tasheka Sutton-Young Interim Vice President for Intuitional Advancement and Executive Chief of Staff

Dr. Tasheka Sutton-Young has worked in higher education for over 19 years including 6 years as Director of Student Activities at Kingsborough Community College. She currently serves as Executive Chief of Staff and most recently assumed the additional responsibilities of Interim Vice President of Institutional Advancement.

Tasheka received her B.A and M.A. in Communications from Iona College and a doctorate in Executive Leadership from St. John Fisher College. We wish her every success in her new position.

From newly retired English Faculty member:  

After 39 years of service as a member of the Department of English at Kingsborough, this is my last semester. There was not a single day that I was not happy to walk into my classroom and be with my students. I loved my job, and I am appreciative and grateful to my students. They have enriched my life. My sincere thanks to the colleagues and co-workers who, in all their individual ways, made my experience here a positive one and helped make it possible for me to do my job to the best of my ability. My goal as a teacher was always to help make my students' lives richer and fuller. If I succeeded at that, even for some of them, then in my own small way, I have helped make the world a better place. And, for me, that is all that matters. The opportunity to work toward this end has been a privilege.   

Sincerely,   - Elise Laurenti

Prof. Laurenti has a unique distinction; her father, Paul Lieb was among the first Merchant Marines to train on the grounds of the Sheepshead Bay Merchant Marine Training Station, the site of the present KCC.  

Paul Lieb  

We are saddened to inform you that President Goldstein’s wife, Dr. Mary DePiano Rothlein Goldstein, stepmother of Michael Goldstein, passed away in September at 78 years old. Our sincere condolences to the family. Mary was a dedicated and skilled educator, who served in the CUNY system for her entire career, including here at Kingsborough, ending with 18 successful years as Vice President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice. She was greatly loved.
Join the international day of giving #GIVINGTUESDAY on December 3, by supporting #KCCSPIRIT Day. Founded in 2012, #GIVINGTUESDAY is the first Tuesday following the Thanksgiving Holiday, Black Friday and Cyber Monday and the goal is to give back.

Kingsborough joins the #GIVINGTUESDAY movement by engaging in a friendly fundraising competition with other departments and with other CUNY schools. Different areas create a team that raises funds and participates in #KCCSPIRIT activities. This year the #KCCSPIRIT theme is **KCC Olympics – Go for the Gold in Your Giving**.

Join our team “The Retirees” to compete in tournament games of dominoes, Uno, connect 4, and Jenga to qualify for the ultimate challenge and win the Golden Megaphone. In addition you may opt in to design the Olympics Torch to compete for the Creative Spirit Award. The team that raises the most funds is awarded the Golden Shoe. Rsvp atuto@kingsborough.edu

Let’s come together to showcase our pride for Kingsborough and support our students. By participating on #KCCSPIRIT Day for the KCC community, you will support the current generation of KCC students—many of whom come from immigrant families and are the first in their families to attend college. All gifts matter, regardless of size, and they play an important role in helping Kingsborough Community College provide the best education for our students.

### Ways to Donate/Participate

Any amount ($15 or more receive a T-Shirt and join the Retiree team) Gift-In-Kind items to raffle (Must be new and packaged in original casing) You can also join your own Department team. T-shirt Sponsorship All collections will be credited to your team total. For more information, please contact Aba Agolli at aba.agolli@kbcc.cuny.edu or you may call 718-368-5433.

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**Commencement Speaker Makes Huge Pledge**

During his 54th Commencement Address, Leonard Riggio, Founder and Chairman of Barnes and Noble, Inc., did far more than just move the audience with stirring oratory. **He made a $1 million pledge to establish the “Class of 2019 100 Strong Scholarship”, which will provide full tuition support for two years to 100 Kingsborough students.**

A leading philanthropist and pioneering entrepreneur, Mr. Riggio believes that affordable, high-quality education is a cornerstone to our democracy: “Nothing is more important to me than the pursuit of civil and human rights. Young people suffocated by student loans is not my idea of a functioning society. Implicit in this idea of democracy, free high-quality college education must be available to all.”

Despite his wealth and success, Mr. Riggio can relate to KCC students today who struggle to pay for college. After graduating high school, he had to work for “$1 an hour” as a bookstore clerk to pay for tuition as an NYU student. Never losing sight of his working-class roots, he has long championed affordable college for all, making him an ideal partner for one of the nation’s top community colleges. In his remarks to the graduating class, he also expressed a kinship with them that transcends generations and backgrounds: “I’m Brooklyn, true and true. Everything I have achieved in life can be attributed to this great borough—the place which formed my aspirations and taught me the lessons of life.” As Brooklyn’s only community college, KCC has long served as a catalyst for opportunity and hub of self-discovery for its students, who like Mr. Riggio tend to come from humble beginnings yet dream big.

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**Planned Giving**

*Planned Giving isn’t just for the “rich and famous.”*

**What is a Planned Gift?**

A Planned Gift is an investment in the long-term success of Kingsborough Community College and our students.

By making a gift in your will, pension or insurance policy, or by setting up a Charitable Gift Annuity, you can make a lasting difference in the lives of our students. Plus: you can take advantage of tax savings now!

**Three Simple Ways to Make a Planned Gift:**

- **Bequests:** Give a gift of cash, securities, or real estate in your will, all while potentially avoiding costly estate and gift taxes.
- **Charitable Gift Annuity:** Receive dependable, fixed income for life in return for a gift of cash or securities.
- **Life Insurance Policy/IRA Beneficiary:** Name Kingsborough Community College as a beneficiary on a new or existing life insurance policy. If you are over 70 1/2, you can direct a portion of your traditional or Roth IRA’s minimum required distribution (MRD) as a gift to KCC and skip paying federal income taxes on the portion you send to us.

**Your Planned Gift = Your KCC Legacy**

All of these processes are fairly simple and are available to individuals at all income levels.

Please contact Daniel La Noue, Director of Major Gifts at 718-368-4539 today!

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If you have previously included the college in your estate plans, we would like to know of your generosity. Please contact us today so that we may thank you and enroll you in THE KCC BEACON SOCIETY, a special group of KCC alumni, retirees, faculty, staff, and friends who have recognized the importance of philanthropic estate planning, and who have provided for the college through their wills and other planned giving arrangements.