COLLEGE FILLS TWO IMPORTANT POSTS

The retirees, along with the college community, welcome Dr. Joanne Russell to Kingsborough Community College as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Dr. Russell has spent over 20 years working in higher education in various faculty and administrative roles, including Vice President for Academic Affairs at Westchester Community College in New York and Dean of Academic Affairs at Manchester Community College in Connecticut. Before that she was an instructor of biochemistry and chemistry and research associate at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Russell received a BS in Chemistry, and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Connecticut.

Most recently she was a Provost Fellow for Community College Access Programs and Workforce Development at SUNY system administration, responsible for working with SUNY’s colleges to scale initiatives that increase access, success, completion and workforce development. She is passionate about the mission of the community college, its commitment to diversity, and the opportunities and support that these institutions provide to all types of learners in all stages of life. We wish her well.

Vice President Eduardo Rios

Mr. Eduardo (Ed) Rios has assumed the position of the Vice President for Finance and Administration. Mr. Rios possesses a wealth of experience in business operations and management. Almost 30 years of that experience is in higher education at several colleges in the City University of New York. Working his way up through the ranks, Mr. Rios recently held the post of Assistant Vice President for Finance and Business Services at the College of Staten Island. In that position he has supervised many of the offices for which he will be responsible at Kingsborough. Mr. Rios began his work at Kingsborough on July 1, 2015. We wish him well.

HAPPENINGS

Prof. Edgar Troudt gave an inspiring lecture on the increasing use of technology in many aspects of life and commerce with particular reference to the travel industry. It was a thought-provoking and educational experience.

Prof. Troudt with attendees

The Annual Retiree Spring Luncheon, Honoring Dr. Stuart Suss is Thursday, May 5th. Please make plans to join us.
Gail Levine, living her life.

Gail Levine went on a trip to Israel over the summer and was struck by the colorful beauty of a rock formation in a nature reserve part of the Negev desert. “The image I had was of a rainbow in the desert,” she said. To Levine, a rainbow symbolized the progress that needed to be made to rid Israel and the Middle East of the pervasive violence that has plagued the region for decades. “A rainbow is a not a wall, and it doesn’t divide or separate.”

Her travels inspired Levine to create two pieces—the watercolor *Rainbow in the Desert* and the collage *Rainbow in the Desert: Connecting Two Peoples*. In the latter, Levine inserted the words “Unites,” “Israelis,” and “Palestinians” somewhat clandestinely. “It’s my hope that the beauty in the desert can connect the two peoples,” she explained. The exhibit ran until Dec. 24th at the Rockaway Artists Alliance in Fort Tilden.

Florida Luncheon

On a beautiful sunny day in February a group of Kingsborough retirees met to celebrate their years at KCC. The event was the Florida annual retiree luncheon. They met at Henrys, a lovely restaurant in Boca Raton. The conversation was lively and animated. Everyone was sharing information about what they were doing with their time and reminiscing about their years at the college. It was wonderful to see everyone looking so well and enjoying their retirement years. Kudos to Lorri Lederhandler and Rachelle Goldsmith for a job well done. For those of you who could not make the luncheon there is always next year. For those of you who are in the New York vicinity, coming up is our annual retiree Luncheon on May 5th at the college. We are privileged to have Dr. Stuart Suss as our guest of honor. We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the luncheon.

Dr. Naomi Platt Recognized

Dr. Naomi Platt has been honored with a formal presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation from The Library of Congress for being a volunteer interviewer in the Veterans History Project (VHP). The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project as part of the American Folklife Center at The Library of Congress. The VHP’s mission is to collect, preserve and make accessible the videotaped personal accounts of American wartime veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. Dr. Platt considers it to be an honor and a privilege to have met and interviewed these veterans who served in the United States military, in any capacity, regardless of branch or rank.
Kingsborough Spotlight
Peter Pobat - Chief of Staff, Office of the President

“Peter Pobat was one of the best things that ever happened to Kingsborough.” That was a direct quote from one of those I interviewed for this story.

Peter came to Kingsborough in 1985 as the manager of the new Performing Arts Center. This was no easy task as different departments often argued over its use. Peter arranged for a fair and reasonable use policy which led to equitable use of the facility. After President Goldstein passed away in 1999, Provost Michael Zibrin was named acting President while a search committee was formed to choose a new President. It was Dr. Zibrin, on the advice of several people, who chose Peter Pobat to be his executive assistant.

Peter had excellent communication skills, an even temperament and was quickly accepted by all in his new role.

Three Presidents followed, and each one insisted that Peter remain as their executive assistant.

As reported by several of these, Peter had a strong sense of ethics and great judgment. He was able to perceive events with a keen eye and gave sound advice which was always greatly appreciated.

He excelled in the role of advisor and his opinion was always well regarded. His communication skills, both written and verbal, were excellent and he had an easy going way which made those around him always feel comfortable.

Peter has recently retired and moved to Boca Raton, Florida to be near his family.

We wish him the best of luck and Bon Voyage! He is a Class act and we will miss him.

50th Anniversary of Kingsborough's First Graduating Class

This year, Kingsborough Community College’s first graduating class, the Class of 1966, will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. To commemorate this epic milestone, Kingsborough will be hosting its first-ever 50th Reunion on Saturday, May 7, 2016 and we hope you can join us!

Whether you have been with Kingsborough since the early days or joined years later, you have played a vital role in helping it become the outstanding college it is today. We hope that you will join the college and the Class of 1966 to reminisce and celebrate this momentous occasion.

50th REUNION of the CLASS of 1966
Saturday, May 7, 2016
6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Cocktails, dinner, dancing and more
$110 per person
The Lighthouse at KCC (aka the MAC Rotunda)

To register, please call the Office for College Advancement at 718-368-4539 or register online at www.kbcc.cuny.edu/50reunion by April 22, 2016.
Planned Giving isn’t just for the “rich and famous.”

What is Planned Giving?
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!

Four Simple Ways to Help
- **Outright Gifts:** Your gift of cash, stock, or real estate can help us make a difference today.
- **Bequests:** A gift of cash, securities, or real estate in your will can help you establish a legacy while 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:** You can name Kingsborough Community College as a beneficiary on a new or existing life insurance policy, or designate a portion of your IRA or pension in your will.

All of these processes are fairly simple and are available to individuals at all income levels. Contact Dr. Elizabeth Basile, Vice President for Institutional Advancement at 718-368-4539 today!

www.kbcc.cuny.edu/planyourlegacy

If you have previously provided for 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 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.

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**KCC Calendar of Events:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estate Planning Workshop “The Power of Your Legacy”</td>
<td>April 19, 2016</td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>KCC-Tapestry Room: A-212</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 1966 50th Reunion Celebration of the 1st KCC Graduating Class</td>
<td>May 7, 2016</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>The Lighthouse (Rotunda)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Awards Night</td>
<td>June 20, 2016</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Performing Arts Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commencement</td>
<td>June 21, 2016</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Outdoor Tent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Seaside Splash Fundraiser: Seaside Splash-Clambake Bash</td>
<td>June 23, 2016</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>The Lighthouse (Rotunda)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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If you are interested in attending any of the events listed, please contact Professor August Tuosto at (719)368-4539 or atuosto@kbcc.cuny.edu