Introducing Kingsborough’s Student Success Summit

Interim President Peter Cohen invited faculty and staff to attend a student success summit which was held in lieu of Spring convocation. The student success summit is a vehicle to look at the student success rates at Kingsborough in the areas of graduation and retention rates. Interim President Cohen wrote: “Kingsborough Community College is justly proud of our student success metrics; our graduation and retention rates are among the highest in CUNY. The Student Success Summit is the beginning of an open, collaborative and campus wide conversation about those metrics with the faculty and staff whose hard work and commitment contribute so fundamentally to them.”

During the summit, faculty and staff shared specific institutional data related to student success, particularly related to equitable success outcomes across demographic student groups, and they engaged in a dialogue about those data. The summit was a first step in building a community driven culture of inquiry around the data we are collecting, around the conclusions we are drawing, around the actions we are taking as a result, and around how assumptions embedded in these processes foster or inhibit student success.

A short introductory session was hosted by President Cohen, and then he invited those assembled into the break-out rooms where intense, specific issues were discussed.

This summit was the beginning of an ongoing conversation on campus with the goal of improving the lives of present and future Kingsborough populations.

The Annual Retiree Spring Luncheon, will take place on Thursday, May 3rd, 2018. We are Honoring VP Otis Hill. Please plan to attend.
FALL 2017 TRAVELOGUE LUNCHEON
Uda Bradford

Professor Rachelle Goldsmith had a rapt audience of retirees as she described the cuisine, outstanding architecture and cultural highlights she experienced on her 3 trips to India with members of her family. Our discussion was enhanced by photographs, news articles and other exhibits, including her demonstration of the way to wrap a sari and her husband’s donning his headdress.

The delicious luncheon prepared and served by KCC’s culinary students heightened our enjoyment of the travelogue.

Prof. Goldsmith with Sari.

Harvey Carrol Recommends Book

Retired Professor Carrol, of the Physical Science Department, thought that the retirees and also current employees at KCC might enjoy the book, “Manhattan Beach” by Jennifer Egan. The name comes from our Manhattan Beach, not the one in California, and takes place in the late 1930s and early 1940s. He enjoyed it immensely, with its mention of many places in Brooklyn.

Reading about Emmons Avenue and Lundy’s, the Oriental Hotel, Breezy Point, the undertow in the Rockaways (where he lived), Ocean Avenue and Ocean Parkway, and lots more brought back so many memories of his time in Brooklyn and at KCC.

The book is also a great crime novel and adventure story. Those who remember Jules Hager, KCC’s first property manager, and who knew that he was a master diver for the navy during WW II, will appreciate the scenes at the Brooklyn Navy yard. Jules and Zelda were featured in our newsletter issue of Fall 2009.

(Professor Carrol now resides in Seattle, Washington.)

HOMECOMING

Members of the Retiree Group met for their annual official meeting the same day as Homecoming.

Discussed were programs and events that might be offered to our members.

Prof. Goldsmith with Sari.

Members of the committee at meeting L to R Professors Tuosto, Klapper, Chernin, Joyce Kantrowitz, Prof. Shelly Friedland

Picture of Homecoming:

One area of booths on a beautiful Fall day.

Retiree Happenings
Cliff Hesse’s other life

Cliff recently enjoyed performing the Major-General in “The Pirates of Penzance” with the Narrows Theater Company. He is also now completing set design for “Lovers and Other Strangers”; and is starting production meetings for “9-5: The Musical”, both for the Rockaway Theatre Company.

Uda Bradford with Environmental Group

As a member of the environmental justice committee of the PSC, Uda Bradford has been deeply engaged in advocacy activities that address climate change. She finds these activities absorbing and is challenged to understand the complexities involved.
Kingsborough Spotlight
OTIS HILL, Vice President for Student Development

Professor Otis Hill has spent 30 years at Kingsborough Community College, the last six of those years as Vice President for Student Development. He started in 1970 and worked until 2000. A graduate of Knoxville College in Tennessee, he earned an Ed.D. in labor studies at Rutgers University.

Professor Hill succeeded Anthony Russo in 1991 as Dean of Students. Before that he was Director of the West End Center. He also served as Faculty advisor to several campus student groups.

Otis became Vice President of Student Development in 1995 when the title of that position changed.

He went to the central office as a Vice Chancellor, in 2000 and left in May of 2006.

In September 2007 he went to Bronx Community College as Vice President and retired in January of 2010.

As VP of Student Development, Otis implemented many programs of value to students. He was known as an innovator and empowered people to take on responsibility. He listened to those in his department and allowed them the freedom to innovate on their own. He encouraged people to do their best and offered assistance without hesitation.

Professor Hill was also a valuable team player within the confines of the administration and its various personnel. He was much beloved, not only in his own department but throughout the college.

The Retiree Group wishes him the best in his retirement.

Students participate in Country-Wide Demonstration

KCC students joined many others across the country, on March fourteenth, by assembling for 17 minutes to advocate for gun control. The 17 minutes was a minute for each of the 17 victims who died.
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 70½, 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 Dr. Elizabeth Basile, Vice President for Institutional Advancement at 718-368-4539 today!

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 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.