FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 22, 2016
No. 58

KINGSBOROUGH ALUM AND SHAW UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. TASHNI-ANN DUBROY IS ANNOUNCED AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE’S 51ST COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Dr. Tashni-Ann Dubroy, Kingsborough Class of 2000 alumna, and now President of Shaw University in North Carolina, will join more than 3,500 expected graduates and guests at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at Kingsborough Community College where she will deliver the keynote address to the graduating class of 2016 during the College’s 51st Commencement Exercises.

Dr. Dubroy, originally from Jamaica, West Indies, began her collegiate career at Kingsborough Community College where she earned an Associate of Science degree, celebrating this educational accomplishment as Valedictorian of the Class of 2000.

Dr. Dubroy who was elected as President of Shaw University in North Carolina in June 2015 following a nationwide search, most recently served as Shaw’s Special Assistant to the President for Process Optimization, and Department Chair and Associate Professor of Chemistry in Shaw’s Natural Sciences and Mathematics Department. At her appointment, Dr. Dubroy was Shaw University’s third alumnus, its third woman, and the second youngest to serve as President in the institution’s 151-year history.

Dr. Dubroy began her career as a Research Scientist at BASF, and was quickly recruited to the position of Global Technology Analyst where she conducted Process Optimization within BASF’s Polyolefin Catalysis market segment, serving as the liaison between the business and manufacturing entities. Following a two-year tenure in that role, she then served as Chemical Procurement Manager managing a strategic sourcing budget of $35 million.

She is a proud alumna of Shaw University, where she graduated summa cum laude with a B.S in Chemistry. She earned her Ph.D. in Physical Organic Chemistry from North Carolina State University in 2007, and an MBA in Marketing from Rutgers University in 2010. Dr. Dubroy is a member of the American Chemical Society and was nominated for membership in Sigma Xi, the Distinguished Chemical Society.
Staying true to her passion for science and education, Dr. Dubroy accepted a professorship at Shaw University. In addition to technical concepts, she teaches her science majors business acumen, interpersonal and communication skills—the sum of which they need to survive in Corporate America and in graduate school. Dr. Dubroy has experience in the recruitment, selection, preparation, advising, and mentoring of minority students who are engaged in STEM- and health disparities-related research projects. She has served as a Principal Investigator and Research Mentor to 22 undergraduate students at Shaw University, two of whom were selected to present at the National Science Foundation as part of the application process for phase II funding of a $20 million Spintronics grant at North Carolina State University. More than 90 percent of her mentees are employed in their fields of study, or are enrolled in graduate school.

In 2012, the United Negro College Fund National Alumni Council presented Dr. Dubroy with an Outstanding Young Alumni award for her service to Shaw University, and in 2014, she was awarded the Distinguished Alumni in Science Diversity award by North Carolina State University.

Dr. Dubroy who has also co-founded Tea and Honey Blends, a hair care company that manufactures and retails natural hair care products, and is also co-owner of a hair salon, mentors women in science via her non-profit organization, Brilliant & Beautiful Foundation. She was recognized by Cosmopolitan magazine, as a “Fun, Fearless Female” making waves in the science community.

Dr. Dubroy has been featured in Money magazine and Bloomberg’s BusinessWeek in recognition of the success of her entrepreneurial upstart that was borne out of her tenure at Rutgers Business School.

She and her business partner have been honored by the National Organization of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers for their work as entrepreneurial leaders and 21st century visionaries, and as “New Chemists on the Block”. She has received fellowship awards from the United Negro College Fund, National Science Foundation, and the National Organization for Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers. Dr. Dubroy is published in various scientific journals including the Journal of Physical Organic Chemistry.

She mentors Shaw and North Carolina State University students, and many high school students she meets in her role as a Shaw University Professor and through her foundation. Each summer, the foundation hosts a SMART Scholars Workshop at North Carolina State University’s Friday Institute where 100 middle school girls are exposed to the sciences by way of making and marketing personal care products to a team of judges.

At the national level, Dr. Dubroy frequently lectures to young girls at all age levels in the scientific community about pursuing their dreams and approaching the sciences fearlessly. Her company is the sponsor of many science competitions that foster children’s interest in the sciences. She has partnered with the Tiger Woods Foundation, the Girl Scouts and with North Carolina’s MSEN Program to bring hands-on science activities to young girls both locally and nationally.

###

About Kingsborough Community College
Kingsborough Community College serves approximately 15,000 full- and part-time students a year in credit and non-credit bearing courses in liberal arts and career education. As one of the City University of New York’s seven community colleges, and the only community college in Brooklyn, Kingsborough provides a high-quality education through associate degree programs that prepare students for transfer to senior colleges or entry into professional careers. Kingsborough is dedicated to promoting student learning and development as well as strengthening and serving its diverse community.