

ACCOLADES

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Winter 2015

KCC's New President: Farley Herzek

As Kingsborough Community College's new president, I have tremendous respect for the legacy I have inherited. For over fifty years, Kingsborough has set the standard for community colleges across the nation, providing access and opportunity to students in what is perhaps the most diverse and dynamic city in the world.

When the Aspen Institute named Kingsborough one of the top four community colleges nationwide in 2013, it was truly a crowning achievement — one that recognized what this institution stands for, and the caliber of students it produces.

As alumni, you know firsthand the value of a Kingsborough education, and you understand that even as we adapt to changing times, we must also stay true to those bedrock principles and ideals that have long served as Kingsborough's foundation. As we go into a new year, I hope to earn not only your trust as president, but your friendship as well, and I encourage you to share any thoughts, memories, or feedback about all things Kingsborough.



President Farley Herzek

Being president of Kingsborough Community College is not just a new adventure for me — it is also a homecoming. Though I have spent much of my career on the West Coast, I am in fact a Brooklyn native and product of the New York City public school and City University of New York (CUNY) systems. I am also a first-generation American, whose father first came to America after being freed from a concentration camp at the end of World War II.

Though I came from what some would describe as “humble beginnings,” my parents always stressed the importance of pursuing my dreams against all odds. Thanks to their belief in me and my own hard work, I became the first member of my family to earn a college degree.

My career in higher education spans 34 incredible years, during which I have served as both a faculty member and an administrator. Most recently, I served as interim president for Los Angeles Harbor College - Los Angeles Community College District. I have also served as interim president of East Los Angeles College and vice president of academic affairs for the Desert Community College District. Furthermore, my passion for education is equally matched by Cheryl, my wife of 32 years, who has worked as an educator and a counselor at the K-12 and collegiate level.

Like you, I pushed to make my dreams a reality. And it all started right here in Brooklyn. As alumni, you are Kingsborough's greatest measurement of its success, and I hope that you will continue to stay connected with Kingsborough.

Hope to see you in 2015!
Farley Herzek, President



Laura Glazier-Smith
Director of Alumni Relations

Throughout the year, I hear wonderful stories from my fellow alumni about how KCC made a difference in their lives. Whether it's a story from a high school dropout who was looking for a fresh start, a foreign

Message from the Director

student not knowing a word of English, a parent who waited to go to college after her kids were grown, or as for me - intimidated by attending a four-year college at a young age - there is always the same underlying theme: KCC gave us the tools and support we needed to make our dreams become reality.

Along with sharing their stories, many alumni also tell me that they haven't been to the campus in ages or ask me how they can give back to the college that has given them so much.

There are various opportunities to visit the campus, with or without your family, and meet other alumni in the

process. My favorite is KCC's Annual Homecoming Day, which is filled with activities, exhibits, tours and entertainment for all ages.

There's also the newly created Alumni Reception Series where alumni can enjoy an evening of dining followed by a great performance at KCC's own Performing Arts Center. If you do not receive invitations to these events and would like to, please let me know.

As for giving back, alumni can volunteer at events, serve on Alumni Career Panels, address students at key events such as award ceremonies, provide jobs or internships, and much more.

My efforts to stay connected with KCC started out by volunteering at a Homecoming and later serving on an Alumni Career Panel to discuss my then career of actuary - experiences that I enjoyed and gained from immensely.

If you would like to share your story, participate in any way, or if you simply have questions about the above-mentioned activities, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,
Laura Glazier-Smith '87
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(718) 368-6725

Steven V. Maksin: An Alumnus Paying it Forward

Long before his prestigious legal career, **Steven V. Maksin** was like many students at Kingsborough Community College: hardworking and ambitious, yet facing considerable challenges on his way to earning a degree. He barely spoke English, lacked economic resources, and was new to the American education system and its culture. Twenty-four years later, he still looks back fondly at his time at KCC, and has chosen to give back to his alma mater in a major way.

Born in Kiev, Ukraine, Mr. Maksin was 21 years old when he first came to the U.S. Despite facing cultural and socio-economic adversities as a recent immigrant, he was determined to make the most of the opportunities available to him. At KCC, he majored in Liberal Arts and distinguished himself as a top student, most notably by consistently making the Dean's List and becoming a member of Phi Theta Kappa

International Honor Society.

After graduating from KCC in 1992, Mr. Maksin went on to a stellar academic career, graduating cum laude from New York University's Stern School of Business in 1994; receiving his law degree from Benjamin M. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University in 2000; and receiving his LL.M. in taxation from New York University School of Law in 2002.

Today, Mr. Maksin is managing partner at Maksin Legal Group and heads the firm's New York Practice. He is also the founder and CEO of Moonbeam Capital Investments (MCI), a fully integrated, self-managed private equity fund.

Mr. Maksin has a perfect counterpart in his wife, Natalie, who is not only a lawyer herself but a fellow partner at Maksin Legal Group. They have six children and currently live in Brighton Beach.

For Mr. Maksin, living in Brighton Beach also means that



Natalie and Steven V. Maksin

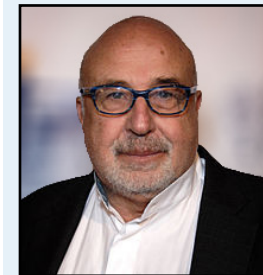
KCC remains, both literally and figuratively, at the forefront of his thoughts. Perhaps this is why in 2014, he established the **Steven V. Maksin Endowed Scholarship** at the very place where his own journey began.

"The main reasons for establishing the scholarship," said Mr. Maksin, "were our firm belief that education is a necessary tool in being successful in the future and it is part and parcel of our American core values, which need to be shared by all members of our

society; our understanding that there are many able and ambitious students who simply lack economic resources to pay for their education; our clear realization that successful private citizens should provide additional funding to perpetuate the American dream in providing higher education to everyone who desires it; and our hope that our actions will encourage others (former and current students at KCC) to follow our steps and give back to Kingsborough."

5 Stars for 5 Decades Kingsborough Honors Distinguished Alumni at 50th Anniversary Gala

On June 18, 2014, Kingsborough Community College celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a spectacular gala on the college campus. This event was highlighted by a very special ceremony, in which five distinguished Kingsborough alumni were recognized for their outstanding professional achievements. From the class of 1969 to the class of 2009, these individuals have made their marks in healthcare and in law, in higher education and in entertainment, yet they all share a common ingredient for their success — a Kingsborough diploma.



Larry Namer '69

"Growing up in Coney Island in a lower-middle class family, my aspirations were not terribly high. The courses that I took at Kingsborough really inspired me to want to go way beyond my humble beginnings and do a lot more with my life."

Mr. Namer is a notable entrepreneur in the entertainment industry, who cofounded E! Entertainment Television. He is president and CEO of Metan Development Group, which develops and distributes various entertainment content and media for Chinese-speaking audiences. He is also Chairman of LJN Media, a firm that specializes in entertainment-related projects. In 1989, Mr. Namer was awarded the President's Award from the National Cable Television Association, and in 2011 received the "Aaron Spelling Award" for his pioneering work in television.



Andrew D. Weyman '71

"Kingsborough opened my eyes to the liberal arts. I studied art history, music, literature and creative writing, all of which play a role in producing and directing. Kingsborough ignited my love for learning and helped me discover my passions."

Mr. Weyman is an accomplished director and producer who began his career in New York City, directing many daytime dramas including "The Edge of Night," "Another World" and "As the World Turns." Over the course of his career, Mr. Weyman has directed many hit shows, including "Roseanne," "Ellen," "King of Queens," "Two and a Half Men" and "The Big Bang Theory." He has won several industry awards, including two Golden Globes for his work on "Roseanne" and "Cybill," and has been nominated for a Daytime Emmy Award.



Mickie Driscoll '88

"My advice to current KCC students is: don't forget where you come from. Kingsborough has given you what you need to succeed in life. You need to keep your ties to the college because by doing so, you will help ensure that future KCC students receive the same opportunities that you did."

Ms. Driscoll's journey at Kingsborough began in 1983 when she worked in the Bursar's Office while pursuing her KCC degree. In 1985, she was hired by the Accounts Payable Office, and worked there while earning her bachelor's degree in accounting from Regents College in 1993. In 1997, she transferred to the Office of Human Resources and Labor Relations as a fringe benefits specialist. In 2007, Ms. Driscoll was promoted to Director of the Human Resources office, a position she holds to this day.



Steven V. Maksin '92

"Kingsborough is the perfect institution for people like me to get second chances in life - educationally and professionally. The most important and lasting impact that KCC had on me was that I learned to believe in myself. After Kingsborough, I knew I could become anything I wanted to be in life."

Mr. Maksin is a managing partner at Maksin Legal Group and heads the firm's New York practice. He is also the founder and CEO of Moonbeam Capital Investments (MCI). He received his law degree in 2000 and his LL.M. in Taxation in 2002, both from prestigious universities. Recently, Mr. Maksin reinforced his commitment to his alma mater in two extraordinary ways: establishing an endowed scholarship for high-achieving students, and joining the KCC Foundation Board of Directors as a new trustee.



Grace Simmons '09

"Kingsborough taught me that the destination does not end the journey; everything that has been invested into the students here serves a purpose and should be paid forward. I also learned the importance of giving back to one's community, not settling for the status quo and striving every day to make the world a better place."

Ms. Simmons is a recovery room nurse in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit at Lutheran Medical Center. During her time at KCC, she served as president of the Nursing Club, vice president of the Honors Club, and received the President's Award for Distinguished Scholarship in 2009. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from SUNY Downstate in 2011, and in 2013, she was inducted into Sigma Theta Tu, the National Honor Society of Nursing. Ms. Simmons is currently pursuing her master's in nursing education.

NURSING PINNING

Nursing Alumni returned to KCC to reminisce and reconnect with fellow alumni and faculty, and cheer on our newest Nursing graduates.



December 2014

A Look at 2014

HOMECOMING 2014 – October 19, 2014
Over 1,000 alumni, students, faculty and staff and their families enjoyed a fun-filled day of entertainment and activities - Brooklyn Block Party style.



Spring 2014

ALUMNI RECEPTION SERIES
Alumni returned to KCC for an evening of dining followed by special theatre performances at the Leon M. Goldstein Performing Arts Center.



June 2014



Fall 2014



ALUMNI CAREER PANEL – Fall 2014

Thank you to **Frank Scalogna '11** (Accounting), accountant at Goldman Sachs; **Denise Levine, LCSW '76** (Early Childhood Education), psychotherapist; **Patrice Ricciotti Morgan '96** (Early Childhood Education), instructor in Behavioral Sciences and Human Services at KCC; **Dr. Dmitry Brogun '99** (Biology), professor of biology at Brooklyn College & KCC and Research Foundation Associate.

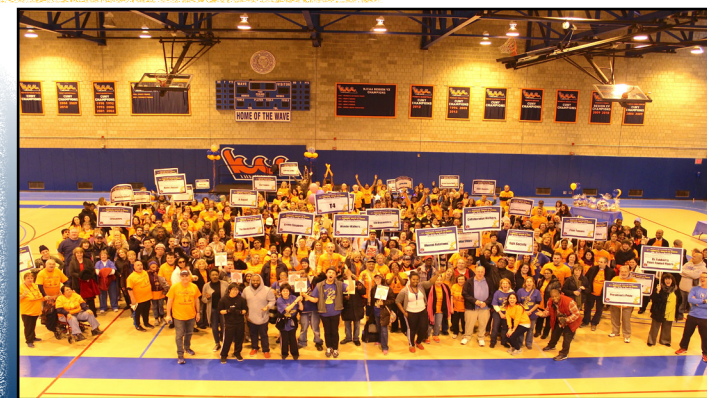


ALUMNI CAREER PANEL – Spring 2014

Thank you to **Christopher Leon '06** (Computer Science), correction officer/information technology specialist, U.S. Dept. of Justice-Federal Bureau of Prisons; **Christine Dixon '09** (Performing Arts), actress/singer and auxiliary police officer; **Michele Cosenza '88** (Maritime Technology), The Cosenza Law Firm PLLC - founding member; **Gina McGrath '07** (Surgical Technology), KCC surgical tech lab instructor; **Norman Cole '69**, owner, Cole Network System.



ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS - June 12, 2014
Congratulations to **Connor Syracuse '13** (Journalism), **Stacey-Ann Foote '13** (Speech Communications), and **Viwassi Dossouhon '14** (Accounting).



WALK-A-THON 2014 – November 13, 2014

Over 600 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of KCC participated in KCC's 6th Annual Walk-A-Thon – Stride to Provide, which raised over \$31,000 for student scholarships.

For more photos, visit www.kingsborough.edu/alumni



ALUMNI COMMENCEMENT BREAKFAST - June 2014
Alumni attended the 50th Anniversary Commencement Breakfast and joined our newest graduates in the graduation ceremony.

Inaugural Athletics Hall of Fame

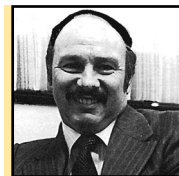
September 10, 2014 — For the first time ever, Kingsborough Community College recognized the brightest stars of its athletic program with the inaugural induction of the KCC Athletics Hall of Fame. The ceremony, hosted by KCC Director of Athletics, Damani Thomas, honored the record-setting alumni athletes, championship-winning coaches, trailblazing administrators and vital staff members who have made the Athletics Program what it is today. The college unveiled an honorary plaque for each inductee featured prominently in the KCC gymnasium.



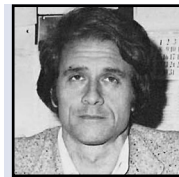
Pictured from left to right: Kenneth M. Stevens, Ronald Gerwin, Ray Miley Jr., Dr. Ralph Edwards, Cathy Dachtera, Nick Zlatar, Dr. Samuel Scherek and Dr. Rachele Goldsmith.



Cathy Dachtera '70 contributed over 40 years of incredible work through her involvement as equipment manager, assistant athletic director, and director of the Sports Complex.



Dr. Ralph Edwards was KCC's first dean and vice president of administration and planning. He was also the first chairman of the Health and Physical Education Department (HPE) where he helped create and develop KCC Athletics.



Ronald Gerwin has worked at KCC since 1967. Currently teaching HPE courses, Ron served as head baseball coach, moderator of the soccer club, head men's basketball coach, region XV baseball committee chairperson, assistant athletic director, athletic director, and chairman of HPE.

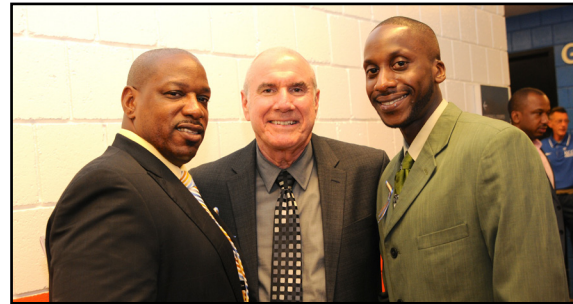


Dr. Rachele Goldsmith, now director of the Honors Program, was inducted due to her contributions to KCC Athletics as the cheerleading coach (1971-1976), women's tennis coach (1974), and intramural director (1975-1984).



Sherry Harris served as head coach of the women's tennis team and was the first women's athletic director at KCC. She helped establish New York City's first Junior College Athletic Association for women.

Among the Inductees: Two Star KCC Alumni Athletes

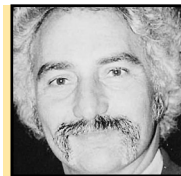


Kenneth M. Stevens, member of the '87-'89 men's basketball team, is one of the greatest point guards and scorers in KCC history. Ken amassed an impressive 1,180 points, was named team MVP and 1st team all-conference both years, was honored as a 1st team all-section player and conference player of the year. Ken went on to serve as a founding member of the Dyckman Basketball Tournament, one of the largest NYC summer basketball leagues benefitting inner city communities.

Ray Miley Jr. '06, was on the 2004-2005 track and field team. He broke the national and KCC Athletics indoor 400m record setting the mark at 48.24 seconds, won two national championships and was named an All-American three times. Ray's notable track record at KCC earned him a scholarship to the University of South Carolina, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in psychology while running track & field at the NCAA Division I level.



Anthony Russo Sr., awarded posthumously, was the first director of KCC Athletics in 1966. He served as chairman of HPE (1969-1971), dean of students (1971-1991), founded KCC men's soccer and baseball teams, and coached the latter.



Dr. Samuel Scherek, currently assistant coach of men's and women's tennis where he was part of two NJCAA Division III national championships, served as head coach of men's soccer and chairman of HPE.



Lou Shor's most distinguished role in KCC Athletics dates back to a time where he was head baseball coach (1972-1979, 1983-1987). He led his teams to 11 conference championships, 8 of which were consecutive. Lou also served as head soccer coach and assistant athletics director.



Nick Zlatar served as the head coach of Men's Soccer (1971-1976) and assistant athletics director (1976-1980). He also served on the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and for 30 years was coach for the United States National Soccer Team.

The Goldsmiths Name Kingsborough's Tennis Facility

The KCC Athletics WAVE Fund was recently created to support activities and resources for KCC Athletic programs and the enrichment of KCC student-athletes. Funds will be used primarily towards supporting activities and resources for KCC Athletic programs, and to support the enrichment of KCC student-athletes.

In just the past few months, we have already seen KCC alumni, faculty and staff rally in support of this new fund. Most notably, Athletics Hall of Fame inductee **Dr. Rachele Goldsmith** and her husband, **Mr. Barry Goldsmith**, a long-standing and highly-successful tennis coach, have made a significant gift to name KCC's tennis facility in support of this fund.

Many thanks to the Goldsmiths for their generosity!

To make a philanthropic contribution of your own please visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/donatenow or call 718-368-4539.



Dr. Rachele Goldsmith and Mr. Barry Goldsmith

Plan Your Legacy

Are you thinking about a way to do more for Kingsborough with the resources you have available?

Consider leaving a lasting legacy at KCC by making a gift through your estate plans.

If you have previously provided for the college in your will or trust, we would like to know of your generosity and thank you.

Please contact Antonio Thompson at (718) 369-5433 or visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/planyourlegacy.



With Deep Sadness: Remembering Officer Wenjian Liu, KCC Class of 2006

This past December, the tragic and shocking murder of two NYPD officers, **Wenjian Liu** and **Rafael Ramos**, sent shockwaves all around the world. Officer Liu belonged to our family of proud KCC alumni. He began his higher education pursuits at the College of Staten Island in 2001, and subsequently transferred to KCC in 2004, and graduated in 2006 with an A.A.S. degree in accounting. He joined the NYPD in 2007 following time spent as an auxiliary police officer.

Kingsborough Community College mourns the deaths of these honorable public servants and expresses heartfelt sympathies to their families.

Stay Connected

Would you like to receive emails and/or invitations regarding KCC and alumni events? Have you recently moved and need to tell us your new address? Are you interested in sharing how your dream began at Kingsborough?

Please send us an e-mail at kccalumni@kbcc.cuny.edu or call Alumni Relations at 718-368-4539. We look forward to hearing from you!



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Stay current with KCC through its Student Newspaper:
ScepterNews.com

Mark Your 2015 Calendars

Annual Donor Recognition
Thursday, April 16

Alumni Reception Series: Jarrod Spector
Saturday, May 16

Seaside Splash Annual Fundraiser
Thursday, June 18

Homecoming
Sunday, October 18

KCC Alumni Relations

Mr. Farley Herzek
President

Dr. Elizabeth Basile
Assistant VP for College Advancement

Ms. Laura Glazier-Smith, '87
Director of Alumni Relations
laura.glazier-smith@kbcc.cuny.edu | (718) 368-6725

General Contact Information:
kccalumni@kbcc.cuny.edu | (718) 368-4539

Join the Alumni Association

Become a member of the Alumni Association. The \$25 annual membership fee helps support student scholarships and programming for alumni events.

For details or to join, visit www.kingsborough.edu/alumni or call us at (718) 368-4539.

Special Thanks

KCC's Office of Alumni Relations is grateful to the hundreds of alumni, faculty, staff and students who assist us with activities and events every year. We'd also like to thank the team at Student Publications for their collaboration on various projects and their coverage of alumni events. A special thank you also goes to **Niaz Mosharraf '14**, former editor-in-chief of Scepter, now KCC alumnus of 2014, for all of his work on this edition of "Accolades."



ALUMNI DONOR HONOR ROLL

Spring 2014

A special thank you to the Kingsborough Community College Alumni below who generously donated to the Alumni Donor Honor Roll. These alumni made a donation to recognize the positive impact of a Kingsborough education, and want to ensure the same for future generations.

These donations will help provide student scholarships, support the college's valuable services and continue to build upon the tremendous success of being named a Finalist-with-Distinction for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, a title that marks Kingsborough as one of the top four community colleges in the nation!

Mr. Stefan Agapie
Mr. Allan Allicock '75
Mrs. Pauline Antonio '98
Ms. Denise Barbaria '86
Mrs. Anna Betancourt '92
Mrs. Linda Biancorosso '90
Mr. Howard Blady
Mrs. Sheryl Bossak '67
Ms. Natalia Bredikhina '02
Dr. Dmitry Y. Brogun '99
Dean Christine M. Buite-Beckner '92
Ms. Anita Cabrera
Mr. Joseph Canari '03
Ms. Ecaterina Carabasu '05
Ms. Joann Colonna
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Mr. William Correnti '75
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Mr. William Crandall '99
Ms. Toneeka Crawford '12
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Mrs. Patricia D'Agosta '05
Ms. Maureen C. Daly '81
Mr. James S. Deller '13
Ms. Julie J. Dennis '76
Mrs. Judith Ann Fox
Mrs. Diane A. Frankel '70
Ms. Marie Giardina-Walsh '94

Ms. Laura F. Glazier-Smith '87
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Ms. Linda Hellow
Ms. Barbara Herbst '98
Mr. Rommel Hidalgo '04
Professor Donald Hume
Ms. Pamela Husbands '94
Mrs. Maryann Ingenito '75
Ms. Kaye S. Kadan '07
Mr. Gary Katz '04
Ms. Sandra Kazlow
Professor Charles E. Kee '77
Ms. Eva Khatana '68
Ms. Tina Kopel '67
Ms. Kathleen A. Lauria '77
Mrs. Ora Lidsky '81
Ms. Sandra Lujan '03
Ms. Patricia Martucci '89
Ms. Gina McGrath '07
Ms. Sharon Medina '06
Mrs. Maria T. Mejias '89
Mr. Michael F. A. Mignuolo '09
Mrs. Jeanne H. Montuori '94

Ms. Wanda Morales '95
Mrs. Patrice R. Morgan '96
Mrs. Nora L. Murray '76
Mrs. Joan Paduano '01
Ms. JoAnne Palmieri '98
Ms. Susan A. Paul '01
Mr. Maksim Rabayev '12
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Mr. Mark H. Rothberg '73
Mr. Howard Rubin '74
Ms. Monserrate Ruiz '85
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Mrs. Diane M. Schenker '91
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Ms. Catherine M. Siggia '80
Ms. Grace Simmons '09
Mrs. Cheryl B. Smith '79
Mr. Carl B. Straker '04
Ms. Ida R. Tobin '82
Mrs. Myrna G. Weiner '11
Mr. Andrew D. Weyman '71
Ms. Jacqueline Williams '07
Ms. Xiaoting Wu '09
Ms. Tara Yarczower '97

Thank you to all of our alumni and generous donors who support the college throughout the year!

To donate today, visit www.kingsborough.edu/donate.