

# Campus Update Workforce Development, Continuing Education & Strategic Partnerships

September 2022

Dear Campus Community,

Please find below some updates and highlights regarding our work within the division.

## Center for Career Development & Experiential Learning

The Center for Career Development & Experiential Learning thank all who supported the **Dress for Success Boutique**. We appreciated the donations, words of encouragement, volunteers and those who provided support in any way. We served 156 students and 127 received professional clothing to attend the job fair and other related activities. More information about how students can get professional clothing throughout the rest of the semester is forthcoming.

The Center also held the fall job fair on campus, which hosted 18 employers and 121 students were in attendance. In honor of **Hispanic Heritage Month**, we will host a **Career Panel on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm**. Please encourage your students to attend and hear from professionals about their career paths and experiences in the workplace. The [event will be held in Room U-219/220](#).

The staff is available virtually on Mondays from 10:00 am-12:00 pm and 2:00-4:00 pm here: <https://zoom.us/my/kcccareer>. Otherwise, students should visit Room C-102 or contact via email at [careerdevelopment@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:careerdevelopment@kbcc.cuny.edu) or phone at (718) 368-5115.

## Community Farm and Garden

In collaboration with the Access Resource Center, we continued the **weekly vegetable distributions** for the first part of September. Also, the distributions occurred at the New Student Orientation, with special harvest from the Leon Goldstein High School, which the students worked on throughout the spring semester. We will schedule additional distributions until the end of the season.

A new submission deadline for the **Logo contest** which is open to all students and alumni, see details here: <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/farmlogocontest/index.html>

We are in the process of ordering the new **children's beds** for the front of the farm and garden. A new **wheelchair accessible bed** has already been installed; all made possible by a donation from the Recreational Therapy program. Thank you!!!

Currently, we are accepting volunteers on Mondays 2:00-5:00pm, Tuesdays 10:00am-12:00pm and 2:00-5:00pm, Wednesdays 10:00am-12pm, and Thursdays 2:00-5:00pm. Volunteer assist with plant maintenance, weeding, planting, and harvesting activities. If you or your students are interested in signing up, please follow this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1r8CeNuRtvY85eQ0EkIh5zJlkydABbA5lxm6p3bFExg/e/dit>

**Assemblymember Mathylde Frontus** (District 46), who generously donated \$125K in support of the anticipated renovations, toured the space on September 8<sup>th</sup> and was very pleased with the progress we have made since her initial visit last year. We are hoping to break ground this fall on replacing the beds and other much needed improvements.

Leon Goldstein High School teachers will again utilize growing space at the farm for some of their science classes. We are also looking to support faculty in research projects on the farm as well as for those looking to run an **educational or club event**. If you are interested in using a bed for your class, please contact Dr. Shannon Caravello  
- [Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu) for more information.

### **Grant and Award Updates**

The division submitted a **\$250,000 proposal to the USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Education and Workforce Development Program** for the creation of an on-campus hydroponics lab. If awarded, Kingsborough will work with [New York Sun Works](#) to construct the lab and develop a curriculum for hydroponic workforce training. Kingsborough will leverage partnerships with groups such as the [NYC Campaign Against Hunger](#). This food security organization operates a number of urban farms across the city, including a new hydroponic facility in Coney Island (in progress).

### **Program Updates**

**CUNY Fatherhood Academy:** Started cohort 14 on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Khalil B. from Cohort 13 passed his GED exam. Alumni Seth M. will be featured in "My CUNY Career Story". Seth completed his High School Equivalency and then went on to earn a welding certificate and is now working in Underwater Diving and Welding.

**CompTIA:** Classes for the Fall 2022 Network+ cohort began on September 20<sup>th</sup>, with 24 students led by instructor Daniel Neville. CompTIA Employment Specialist, Andrew Calhoun joined the team and will provide job search assistance and one on one career coaching to students.

**Job Corps Scholars:** Alumni Akera conducted a presentation to fellow Scholars at our recent Employment Counseling group workshops about "Learn How to Ace the Interview".

**DesignWorks:** On September 29<sup>th</sup>, the program hosted a portfolio review session for current students and alumni with designers from Meta (formerly known as Facebook). UX Designers use portfolios to showcase their design processes to potential employers. Having a professional review of their portfolios is an incredible opportunity for new designers. Facilitated by Amanda George, Product Design Manager at Meta, and Hillary Stackpole, DesignWorks Program Director, fifteen students joined breakout rooms for one-on-one review sessions with Meta design team members. Students had an amazing time connecting with the Meta professionals, who gave our budding UX designers valuable and actionable feedback on their work. We look forward to working with Meta again on similar events.

**ESL/HSE/SNAP Program:** The office is currently registering students for full-time ESL and HSE programs to prepare for college and career pathways. Please direct prospective students to [HSE registration](#) or [ESL registration](#).

Students were invited and attended the college's Job Fair taking advantage of an excellent opportunity to meet with employers offering full-time and part-time employment, and internships.

The Venture V for SNAP Participants program is currently accepting registration and referrals. The program provides essential services to help low-income SNAP recipients increase their employment skills and obtain jobs. The KCC college community is invited to refer potential students, whom you believe may benefit from the education and training opportunities provided by the program, to the Academic/ESL Program Office for evaluation of eligibility and registration. Please contact program coordinator, Tatyana Rabotneva, or the Academic/ESL Program Office for further information.

For all program information or questions, please call (718) 368-4870 or visit the [Virtual Office](#): Monday-Friday, 9:30am – 5:00pm.

### **Fall Catalog**

The **Fall Catalog** can be found here: <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/courses.html>. We are working on several new programs and look forward to sharing them with you.

For more information, Zoom Virtual Front Desk (<https://zoom.us/j/2151731780> (Monday–Friday, 10:00 am–12:00 pm and 1:00-3:00 pm); Phone: 718-368-5050, or Email: [conted@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:conted@kbcc.cuny.edu). We look forward to seeing you soon.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Dr. Simone Rodriguez  
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Vice President, Workforce Development, Continuing Education & Strategic Partnerships  
**Interested in learning more about the division? [Click here!](#)**