It has been announced that Kingsborough Community College (KCC) has earned Achieving the Dream’s newest recognition for achieving higher student outcomes and narrowing equity gaps: the designation Leader College of Distinction. KCC was one of 11 community colleges nationwide to earn the accolade, the only one in New York State. The college earned Leader College distinction in 2015.

Achieving the Dream (ATD) leads a national network of more than 220 community colleges championing evidence-based improvements to help community college students achieve their goals, resulting in improved skills, better employability, and economic growth for families, communities, and the nation as a whole.

Participating colleges focus on seven essential areas: leadership and vision; data and technology; equity; teaching and learning; engagement and communication; strategy and planning; and policies and practices.

“The college as a whole has embraced ATD’s principles. Subcommittees of faculty, staff, and students have been gathering and analyzing data to develop new strategies aimed at strengthening and promoting more equitable outcomes,” noted Kingsborough Community College President Claudia Schrader.

Kingsborough has focused on overcoming opportunity gaps by identifying barriers that are nearly always outside the student’s control, including race, English proficiency, and family or community wealth.

Only colleges that have been Leader Colleges for three or more years were invited to apply.

Retiree Happenings
Cliff Hesse has been filling his time by joining the talented cast of “A Comedy of Tenors,” at the Rockaway Theatre Company. In addition to his acting duties, Cliff served as Set Designer.

Delores Friedman’s new book, Wildflowers, was named An Indie Book Worth Discovering by Kirkus Reviews, which gave it an exceptionally good review, calling Wildflowers, "A solid historical novel with engaging characters."

We Need Your Help
The Retiree Group has been in existence since 2005. That is 14 years of comradeship, socialization, helping to raise funds for KCC and awarding an annual retiree scholarship, sponsoring seminars, travelogues, etc. The team, under the leadership of Dean Marilyn Chernin, has stewarded the group throughout the past 14 years and has been diligent, responsible and committed to the mission.

However, as the years pass on some of the committee members are no longer with us or because of health reasons are unable to continue to serve. We are appealing to you, to consider volunteering to help us maintain a viable group to continue the legacy of the Retiree Group. We meet 4-5 times a year.

KCC Earns Achieving
KCC Retirees Newsletter
Editors:
Marilyn Chernin
(mchn150@aol.com)
Uda Bradford
(munroebradford@gmail.com)
Shelly Friedland
(shellyf@aol.com)
Digital Layout:
Shelly Friedland
Florida Retirees Luncheon, March 13, 2019

By Rachelle Goldsmith

On Wednesday, March 13, 2019, seven retired KCC colleagues met for our annual south Florida gathering (Dick Adelson, Rachelle Goldsmith, Ollie Klapper, Peter Pobat, Artie and Helaine Schwartz, Marc Wiskoff).

This year, the group enjoyed a delicious lunch at Havana restaurant in West Palm Beach, toasting our good memories of Kingsborough with glasses filled to the brim with sangria and fruit. Following the luncheon, we proceeded to the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium for three hours of fun and education led by our own Marc Wiskoff, who spends countless hours volunteering at the center securing funds for special projects, overseeing the observatory, and developing programs for students. We were fortunate to be at the center on the opening day of its new exhibit about the brain. We also enjoyed touring the aquarium, exploring the dinosaur exhibit, and watching a show in the planetarium about the discovery of ancient sea monsters. When we said our good-byes, we all agreed that it was a wonderful reunion and look forward to gathering again next year, hopefully with more retirees in attendance.

Gail Levine Inducted Into NYU Society

On Oct. 27th, Prof. Gail Levine will be inducted into New York University's "Perstare Society" in honor of the 50th Anniversary of her undergraduate graduation from NYU's Washington Square College in 1968. Dr. Levine went on to obtain her Masters and Doctoral degrees from NYU; a "Triple Alumna"! Gail retired from her full-time position as Associate Professor at KCC in 2011 and continues to teach as an Adjunct at KCC.

Travelogue Featured the Greek Islands of Santorini and Mykonos.

On Friday, November 2nd, retirees met at the old VIP room for a wonderful lunch, prepared and served by students in the Culinary program. Shelly Friedland spoke of his travels to the Greek Islands and showed his photo book. The food and the gathering of fellow retirees made it a special day.
Kingsborough Spotlights

Dean of Student Life Marilyn Chernin

Marilyn Chernin seems to have arrived minutes after Kingsborough first opened its doors and she has been an outstanding member of the instructional staff ever since.

Marilyn became a Dean of Student Life early on and has been Dean Chernin to everyone, even after her retirement.

When alumni of Kingsborough come back to visit the college, the number one person they ask to see is Marilyn Chernin. She has always been one the students’ most effective advocates as she promoted their needs and aspirations as a member of the College Council, Board member of the KCC Association and in face to face meetings with each president of the College that she sat down with to make her case.

What may not be generally known is that she not only had a positive impact on the lives of Kingsborough students, but she also inspired her colleagues in the Department of Student Development and faculty members throughout the College. One of her major accomplishments was the creation of a student leadership program called the Peer Advisor Program. She chaired and worked closely with the Student Activities Committee, consisting of people who would work with small groups of peer advisors on campus as well as participate in a Weekend Retreat off campus. All the members of this Committee, basically started as “kids” and grew in stature to become Deans, Department Chair, Directors of important campus-wide programs as well as leaders in communities in which they lived. They included Deans Norman Toback, Angelo Pappagallo, Uda Bradford, VPs Otis Hill, Elizabeth Basile and Professors Shelly Friedland, Rachelle Goldsmith, Oliver Klapper, and Wayne Harewood.

Today, as a continued blessing to the college, Marilyn is still here at Kingsborough and continues to uplift the lives of the students that she meets and the faculty that she works with. She was also a guiding force in the establishment of the Retiree Program which celebrates past and current experiences of faculty and staff as well as the college’s achievements, and offers an annual student scholarship.

In Memorium

We commemorate the lives of our colleagues who left us in the past year and offer sincere condolences to their families.

Mr. Vincent Grue  
Ms. Harriet Katz  
Mr. Jack Philips  
Ms. Marie Alexandre  
Dr. John Utting  
Dr. Herbert Gelbart  
Ms. Ann Leonetti  
Ms. Cydelle Elrich  
Ms. Eleanor Puma  

Maintenance  
Business Manager’s Office  
Instructional Services  
Buildings & Grounds  
Department of Biological Sciences  
Dept. of History, Philosophy & Pol. Sci.  
Business Manager’s Office  
Admissions  
Library
ASPEN INSTITUTE RECOGNIZES KINGSBOROUGH AS ONE OF THE TOP TEN FINALISTS IN NATIONAL PRIZE COMPETITION
$1 Million Prize Recognizes Excellence in Equitable Outcomes for Students During and After College

BROOKLYN, NY, April 2, 2019 — Today, CUNY Kingsborough Community College was recognized in an award ceremony in Washington, D.C. as one of the top community colleges nationally in the 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. During the ceremony at the Newseum, Kingsborough was honored for its holistic approach to supporting students in and out of the classroom, and for achieving a 49 percent student transfer rate, which is 17 percentage points above the national average.

Pictured, center, Dr. Claudia Schrader, president of Kingsborough Community College, flanked by co-chairs of the 2019 Aspen Prize jury Kathy Warden, chief executive officer and president of Northrop Grumman, and Angel Cabrera, president of George Mason University

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 70 ½, 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.