Please consider sustainability of our environment before deciding to print this newsletter.

New this week

AQIP Systems Appraisal Feedback Report is now available

Submitted by Dr. John Avendano, president

Last week, we received feedback from the Higher Learning Commission regarding our AQIP Systems Portfolio, which was submitted in November 2009.

Our continued accreditation as an educational institution is critical. Therefore, it requires everyone’s familiarity with the reports and involvement for continuous improvement.

The new Systems Appraisal Feedback Report from the HLC can be read here.

I want everyone at KCC to understand our strengths and challenges and to assist in defining our priorities.

This report includes: an executive summary, a list of strategic issues that the HLC/AQIP identifies as opportunities for improvement (this time six strategic issues were identified on pages 6-7), and an assessment of KCC’s activities and programs organized by the nine AQIP categories.

You should know that based on the review of our Systems Portfolio, our accreditation status remains strong. True to the AQIP philosophy, areas for improvement have been identified as well.

In the coming weeks, I plan to engage the college in a conversation about this important report. And so, as you read through it, please send any feedback you have to Dr. Vicki Magee, ext. 8258 or vmagee@kcc.edu.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report, and any others which relate to our accreditation. All of the college’s AQIP and
accreditation reports, dating back a number of years, are available on the Office of Institutional Research Web page.

**Board notes**

Following is a summary of information from the board of trustees meeting held Monday, March 8, 2010.

**End-of-term credit hours**

Overall, 44,251 credit hours were generated for the Fall 2009 semester, a 15.74 percent increase from the previous fall. A chart with the demographic breakdown of the reimbursable credit hours by funding category and end-of-term credit hour trends is available from Emily Skelly in the Office of Institutional Research, ecskelly@kcc.edu.

**Financial aid**

The board heard a brief report from the Office of Financial Aid. Since 2003, the number of processed financial aid applications increased 278 percent. In 2009-10, the office processed applications for 3,266 students, and 1,763 students received Pell Grants totaling $5.2 million. Larger numbers are expected for next year. Students also received MAP and SEOG dollars. A chart with the breakdown is available from Kari Sargeant in the Office of Marketing and Public Information.

**Bids, projects and purchases**

The board approved the request to bid abatement in isolated areas of the Phase I building. A major heating, ventilation and air-conditioning project will commence this spring in Phase I of the main building complex. Additional information will be shared when specific dates for the work are determined. The board approved the request to purchase computer servers.

**International Friendship Day schedule**

*Submitted by Elise Schultz, Cultural Diversity Committee*

The annual International Friendship Day celebration at KCC will be Wednesday, March 24 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This event is one way that the Cultural Diversity Committee strives to help students develop a more global perspective. Faculty and staff are invited to attend and are requested to encourage students to visit the displays and attend the faculty and student presentations. There will be an international lunch buffet prepared by Chef Auston Minnich and Food
International Friendship Day events

11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium -- Country displays, study abroad information, and other informative exhibits

Everyone is welcome to get a KCC Passport and have it stamped at the displays and presentations!

Completed passports qualify for a $2 discount at the International Lunch Buffet and a chance to win raffle prizes, including two $50 gift certificates to Hammes Bookstore and a KCC gift basket.

KCC students, student organizations, faculty and staff, and community members are invited to create displays. The displays should be informative, educational, and have a global or intercultural connection. To participate, e-mail eschultz@kcc.edu. Please include the name of the country, culture, or global perspective you would like to represent.

11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Lower Level College Center -- International Lunch Buffet

11-11:30 a.m., College Center -- Martial Arts Demonstration

The demonstration, from Sensei Steve of Sensei Steve's Karate Center, will have a focus on Okinawa and martial arts weapons. Sensei Steve also is kickboxing coordinator for the Arnold Schwarzenegger Martial Arts Festival.

11:30 a.m. - noon, Iroquois Room -- Teaching Opportunities in South Korea for Community College Students

ChangEun Kim, director of the Korean Education Center at the South Korean Consulate in Chicago will give information on the TaLK program. Students receive training and spend a semester teaching in smaller communities there. One KCC student had a wonderful experience in this program in Fall 2009!

Noon - 12:30 p.m., Iroquois Room -- Scholarship Contest Presentations

Three students have been selected as finalists to give presentations with an international focus. The audience will vote by ballot to select the winner. The top prize is a three-credit-hour class.

12:30-1 p.m., Iroquois Room -- Academic Presentation

Deisy Davila, Ph.D., will give a presentation on Critical Folkdance Pedagogy: Women's Folkdancing as Feminist Practice, the results of her doctoral research in Barranquilla, Colombia. The presentation includes authentic dance video and folksong.

1-1:30 p.m., College Center -- Latin Dance Lesson

After her academic presentation in the Iroquois Room, Deisy Davila, Ph.D., will give a Latin dance lesson in the College Center.

New building takes shape on West Campus

Submitted by Scott Stewart, director of horticulture & agriculture programs
The college has a new building on West Campus, some of you may have noticed it peaking out from behind the trees as you enter campus.

The KCC Horticulture and Agriculture programs have a new greenhouse. This 2,500 square foot structure will serve as both a teaching and demonstration facility for traditional horticultural plant production, as well as alternative plant production methods such as hydroponics and soil-less production systems. The greenhouse includes two separate growing zones controlled by an advanced environmental control system and a potting room/classroom space.

The day-to-day operations of the greenhouse will be overseen by me. However, horticulture students will be responsible for maintaining plants grown in the facility year-round. The entire greenhouse should be complete within the next three weeks.

The new greenhouse is only the first step in the evolution of West Campus. In the near future, additional temporary growing structures such as cold frames and high tunnels will be installed, a small specialty crops teaching field will be established, and a number of teaching gardens and landscape projects will be initiated—all student-lead projects. All these changes will take shape over the coming months and years, and the entire campus community is encouraged to visit West Campus to see these projects develop.

Once the greenhouse is complete, there will be an open house. However, if you have any questions about the facility before this time please contact me, Scott Stewart, at ext. 8859 or sstewart@kcc.edu.

College/Transfer Fair and Q & A are next week

KCC will sponsor a College/Transfer Fair from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 23 in the first floor Atrium.

More than 30 public and private colleges and universities will be represented at the fair, sponsored by KCC’s Transfer Center. Information also will be available on KCC’s transfer programs and vocational training, financial aid and student activities.

Current high school students, college students and the public are invited to attend.

From 2 to 3 p.m. March 23, the Transfer Center will hold a Transfer Q & A session in the Workforce Development Center Conference Hall. Representatives from several Illinois universities will be part of the panel.

Those attending the College/Transfer Fair and the Transfer Q & A session will have a chance to enter raffles for a free 8GB iPod Nano and a 2GB iPod Shuffle.

For more information about the College Fair, phone Susan LaMore
Health Fair is March 30

A Health Fair for all employees and students will be 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 30, in the First Floor Atrium area.

Now in its eight year, the Health Fair will feature:
- Free glucose and cholesterol screening for the first 40 KCC employees. Sign-up sheets are available at the first-floor receptionist desk. Participants are asked not to eat or drink anything except water for six hours prior to the testing.
- Health Careers students will be presenting information and handouts at booths in the Atrium Area. Topics will include health, safety, nutrition, substance abuse, prevention of diseases and many more.
- Riverside Medical Center and Provena St. Mary's Hospital will have booths on health related issues.
- Door prizes will be awarded through a free raffle. Items to be given include T-shirts from the Fitness Center, a three-hour credit course, a Hammes Bookstore gift certificate, and numerous other prizes and handouts.

Employment information

Two employees have recently left the college.
Laima Boese, materials technician in Marketing and Public Information, employment ended effective March 5.
Daniel Raudonis, aide I in Information Technology Services, employment ended effective March 2.

Info for faculty using ANGEL:

The Teaching and Learning Center has two new documents on its Web pages -- [http://www.kcc.edu/FacultyStaff/ktlc/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.kcc.edu/FacultyStaff/ktlc/Pages/default.aspx).

First, ANGEL office hours for March and April have been updated on "TLC Workshops."
Second, the Instructor Responsibilities document has been added to "TLC Tutorials." This document provides step-by-step instructions for activities such as creating a course backup and turning on your course for students.

Scholarship application deadline approaches
April 9, 2010 is the deadline to submit applications for scholarships available through the KCC Foundation for the 2010-11 school year. KCC’s scholarship program recognizes more than 200 students in 75 scholarship categories. More than $200,000 is available to new and returning KCC students.

Scholarship categories address the needs of full- and part-time students, occupational and baccalaureate students, middle-income families, recent high school graduates, students whose grades are in the middle range, older students who are returning to school, and a broad spectrum of students with special talents.

Descriptions of all scholarship categories are available in KCC’s Office of Financial Aid, from high school counselors or online at www.kcc.edu/scholarships. Applications and nominations for any of the scholarships should be made directly to KCC’s Office of Financial Aid.

To be eligible for most foundation scholarships, a student must reside in the college district and have a 2.5 GPA for a talent scholarship.

For more information, contact the KCC Foundation at ext. 8250.

Art students participate in statewide exhibit

Seven KCC visual arts students have artwork accepted into the 2010 Illinois Community College Juried Art Exhibit.

The participating artists and their works in the show are: James Basham, untitled; Christine Hallock, "Undersea Dreaming"; Lisa Hanley, untitled; Candice James, "Twisted Vase," "Electric Green Bowl" and "Tube Vase"; Bailey Maricle, "Fossil"; Alea N. Shea, "Evidence of a Designer that Cares" and "Girls Growing Up"; and Britini Ulrick, "Faceted Flower."

To view the works of KCC's artists, visit the Governors State University Visual Arts gallery web information.

The Illinois Community College Juried Art Exhibition is on display until March 26.

Congratulations to all of KCC's representatives in the show.

Thank you to the Black History Month team!

Submitted by Elise Schultz and Velette Fitch, Cultural Diversity Committee co-chairs

"Musical Themes of the Civil Rights Era" was the focus of Black History Month events in February sponsored by the Cultural Diversity Committee.

Not only were there months of planning by committee members,
but others on campus also joined our team to make the plans become a reality. In addition to thanking our committee members for their dedication and help, we also want to extend thanks to other team members for their contributions.

We couldn't have done it without them!

Program participants: Dr. Walter McCray (guest speaker from Chicago), Willie Dixon, Novalla Coleman, Ed Gilbert, Dana Washington and Chris Young.

Special support: Cathy Robinson, David Cagle, Steve Makepeace, Sarah Zirkle, media staff, Nancy Schunke, Eric Springer, Mike Savage, Physical Plant staff, Kari Sargeant, Elizabeth Becvar, Auston Minnich & Food Service Inc. staff and Student Advisory Council.

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Cabinets available: They're free, too

The Learning Resource Center has a microfiche cabinet and several microfilm cabinets that are no longer being used. If any other department has a need for one or more of them, please stop by the LRC to take a look. Call Barb Loudy at ext. 8404 if you have any questions.

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Events this week

Sessions share Business and HR info

Submitted by David Cagle, director of human resources

The Business Affairs & Human Resources Office is offering information sessions twice a month for all KCC employees. These informational sessions will be repeated again for the next several months.

**Tuesday, March 16 -- 2-4:30 p.m., Room D214**

This session will include information from four areas.

Angela Kunce will discuss the ins and outs of district travel, R-25, purchasing, and miscellaneous staff reimbursements.

Brenda Dressler will discuss budget transfers, bids/quotes, and the budget process.

Heather Dillander and Brenda will share information about budgets.

Jill Christy will review the central supplies ordering process.

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Lady Cavaliers head to nationals!
The KCC women's basketball team defeated South Suburban College 68 to 59 to win the Region IV Division II Championship on Saturday, March 6 at Illinois Valley C.C.

With the Region IV victory, the Lady Cavs are on their way to the NJCAA National Tournament in East Peoria. Games will be March 17 to 20 at Illinois Central College. The KCC women's basketball team is has the no. 3 seed for the tournament and will play Thursday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. vs. Parkland College or Monroe C.C.

Visit the tournament Web site -- http://www.icc.edu/njcataournament -- for scores, schedules, webcasts and more information.

Sophomore Shakeeta Cotton was selected for the First Team All-Region IV and Demetria Ward was named to the Second Team All-Region IV for the 2009-10 season.

Cotton was named Region IV tournament most valuable player. Khassandreae Brown and Rachel Noll also were on the All-Region IV tournament team. Head Coach Donnie Denson was named District D Coach of the Year as well.

Good luck Lady Cavs!

High school art exhibit underway

The 21st annual KCC Juried High School Art Exhibit is underway through March 26 in the Learning Resource Center Art Gallery.

Works from more than 250 students, representing 17 area high schools and studios are on display. A juror's critique and awards presentation will be Thursday, March 18. Hors d'oeuvres and viewing will start at 6:30 p.m., with an awards presentation at 7 p.m.

All faculty and staff are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Sheila Pfaff at ext. 8704 or Jean Janssen at ext. 8719.

Upcoming events

Job fair features 50 employers

KCC will sponsor its 16th annual Job Fair from 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday, March 25.

Approximately 35 area businesses and industries will be at the Job
Fair. The employers will conduct pre-screening interviews for full- and part-time positions.

Current and former KCC students are invited to attend. Admission is free.

Please help inform and remind students to have a current resume with them and to dress for success!

For information, visit www.kcc.edu/jobfair call the Office of Career Planning Services at ext. 8575.

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**Free play -- "Much Ado about Nothing" on 3/22**

A free, 90 minute performance of Shakespeare's "Much Ado about Nothing" will be Monday, March 22 at 1:30 p.m. in the KCC Auditorium.

Actors for the play will be the National Players from Olney, Md.

"Much Ado about Nothing is one of Shakespeare's wittiest comedies, centered on love, marriage, confusion, discoveries and confessions," said Penelope Stickney, writing professor.

The performance is sponsored by KCC's Humanities and Social Sciences Division.

The picture above shows Grace Trull as Beatrice and Glen Wall as Benedick in Much Ado About Nothing.

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**News and information**

**Thanks-a-Grams**

The Employee Morale Committee is encouraging employees to use a longstanding device to take part in a new way of recognizing each other.

**Recent 'Thanks-a-Grams'**

**To: Physical Plant Department**
From: Jill Christy
Thank you for your prompt response and help in clearing away bookstore merchandise and clean up of water when we had a pipe break and mini-flood, again!
You guys are great!

**To: Stella Mausehund, April Frye, Greg Keel, Tim Parker, Bob Laird, Max Longoria, Harold Dotson, Charles Cruz, and Mildred Keel**
From: Eric Springer
I would like to acknowledge the team effort that took place in the
bookstore this morning, removing all of the items out and getting it ready for the carpet replacement that will take place next week. Stella and April did an outstanding job supervising the project along with the other team members, Greg Keel, Tim Parker, Bob Laird, Max Longoria, Harold Dotson III, Charles Cruz and Mildred Keel. Great Job Team!

Green Flash sustainability message

Submitted by Rich Schultz, coordinator of the Sustainability Center Sustainability and Planning

As winter fades and spring is in the air, we may begin to think about traveling by car for work and pleasure.

As demand increases, the cost per gallon for fuel will go up, which will make our trips more expensive. In addition to the impact on our personal finances, use of petroleum has environmental consequences.

Here are some details from the Earth Day Network:

-- It took 125 years to consume the first trillion barrels of oil. The next trillion will be consumed in only 30 years. By 2030, the world will use 47 percent more oil than it did in 2003 and the number of autos in the world will increase by 50 percent.

-- According to Chevron, the world consumes two barrels of oil for every one discovered. New energy discoveries are mainly occurring in places where resources are difficult to extract—physically, technically, economically and politically.

-- More than half of the world's oil supplies lie in just five countries. Oil production is declining in 33 of the 48 largest oil producing countries, while demand is increasing as the world's economy grows and nations develop.

-- Automobiles account for about a third of carbon dioxide emissions in the U.S.. They are the largest source after power plants. Each gallon of gas consumed results in 20 pounds of CO2. U.S. vehicles release more CO2 than all energy sources (heating, vehicles, electricity, and factories) in India.

If you have questions or comments, please let me know. I can be reached at ext. 8243; or contact Bert Jacobson, dean of sustainability and planning, at ext. 8242.

Update deadline

The deadline to get articles in Update is noon Thursday for the following Monday's issue.

In addition to submitting articles and article ideas in person, you also can submit them via e-mail to eskelly@kcc.edu.

Articles should be submitted to Ellen Skelly in Marketing and