



The QC Voice

"A newspaper by students for students"

Fall 2015

Volume 9, Issue 1

President backs Obama's free 2-year tuition plan

In January, President Obama announced his "America's College Promise" proposal to make two years of community college free for responsible students, letting them earn the first half of a bachelor's degree and earn skills needed in the workforce at no cost. An estimated 9 million students could benefit. The proposal will require community colleges to strengthen programs and increase the number of graduates, and states to invest more in higher education. Tuition free classes would be available to all who maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA and stay on track to graduate. A full-time student could save an estimated \$3,800 in tuition per year.

We recently sat down with Quincy College President Peter H. Tsaffaras to get his thoughts on this proposal.



President Peter H. Tsaffaras would proceed "cautiously" with the plan.

By BOBBI BOLSTER

QC Voice Staff

It is no secret that finding a job today has become increasingly more difficult, particularly without the necessary educational credentials. No longer will a high school diploma suffice. It's essential that people continue to climb the ladder of education.

And no one feels more strongly about the education opportunities Quincy College can provide than President Peter H. Tsaffaras.

"We're about educating students to become more socially and economically productive," Tsaffaras said, hoping QC's positive influence will attract more potential students.

Tsaffaras is optimistic that President Obama's proposal will be a positive thing for QC, our economy, and our country.

However, this proposal has its critics. Those who oppose argue that because students won't be paying for their education, they won't value it. An investment in education provides an incentive to do well.

Tsaffaras recognized some truth in these statements and agreed that for some people, the term "free" can devalue a product. But alluding to the faith he has in the students at Quincy College, he said, "It's certainly not true for all."

Asked how QC would deal with an expected increase in student body if the Obama proposal is passed, Tsaffaras said, "cautiously."

"At the end of the day, we need to replace funding currently covered by tuition and fees," he said. "We don't want to create a platform that is unsupported."

Although Obama's proposal has created a stir of anticipation and hope, Tsaffaras warned, "The problem is turning concept into reality."

For now the plan has shown us that the government is willing to lend a helping hand to its hard working students.

Greetings Quincy College Students!

Welcome to the first issue of the *QC Voice* for the Fall 2015 semester. By now, you're all probably settled into your class schedule, studies, extracurricular and social activities. But as a commuter school with an open campus, it can be difficult for some students to interact outside the classroom. Yet you do see and hear things around the QC campuses at Quincy and Plymouth that may affect you and your fellow

students. From the start, the *QC Voice* motto has been "A newspaper by students for students." That's why we'd be delighted to hear from you and give you a **Voice** to communicate with the rest of the student body through ideas and opinions conveyed to the *QC Voice* or by joining us as a staff contributor to cover stories. In the meantime, enjoy this first issue and best of luck in the new school year.

— The Staff of the *QC Voice*

President's Corner

Peter H. Tsaffaras, J.D.



Welcome students and faculty to a new academic year. Quincy College facilitates valuable learning relationships that inspire students to realize their educational and professional potential. We have taken great measures to ensure that our students have what they need to attain that potential.

Recently, we have increased full-time faculty by approximately 30 percent and greatly improved and expanded our facilities in Quincy and Plymouth. We also continue to update our academic offerings and academic programs on both campuses.

This year, Quincy College was one of six colleges in the country given the approval to offer a Physical Therapist Assistant program. The PTA program will take place in a new state of the art lab on the Plymouth campus.

As students navigate through their course work, I encourage them to take full advantage of the instructional and non-instructional support available to them. Student support comes in the form of academic advising, enhanced classroom technology, expanded library services, tutoring, student success and career services coaching.

We are pleased to welcome our new Director of Student Life, Amanda Deck. Ms. Deck will coordinate extra-curricular and enrichment activities for students on and off campus, a valuable component of the college experience.

As a college community, the faculty and staff are dedicated to offering our students a high quality and affordable education. An education that will ensure success in the workplace and the foundation needed to continue their education at a four-year institution. We are proud to say that 90% of graduates who responded to the 2014 graduate survey were either employed or continuing their education post-graduation. The majority of these graduates are working or continuing their education in a field related to their Quincy College course of study.

"Focused on Teaching & Learning, One Student at a Time" is not merely Quincy College's motto. It is, as well, the embodiment of the way in which we conduct ourselves each and every day, including the manner in which all students, faculty and staff interact.

People often hear me say, "Education is the passport that allows one to travel through and navigate our society." I am proud to say that now, more than ever, Quincy College is here to assist people in earning that passport.

I wish you the best in the year ahead.

Inquiring Photographer

By KEN HALEY

QC Voice Staff

Question: How has the street and road construction in Quincy Center affected your commute to school?



Leo Saravia

Major: Natural Sciences
From: East Boston

"Well, it isn't much of a difficulty for me 'cause I take the train. The only problem I have is crossing the street 'cause most of the time it is a hassle and then going to and from different places around Quincy, it does get in the way. But I'm sure there's a reason for it."



Kiara Mark

Major: Natural Sciences
From: Weymouth

"I park about 5 minutes away from the school where there's no specified time... (I'm) able to park as long as I need, and I can be here and come to class."



Millia Jean-Laurent

Major: Business transfer student
From: Cambridge

"When I'm coming off the train, it's a little difficult with the traffic lights and going around the construction and having to get where I need to go right away."



Shane Durette

Major: History
From: Quincy

"Coming to and from school not very much, because I walk to and from here every day."

HELP WANTED

Come join the staff of *The QC Voice* and have your Voice heard. We're looking for writers, editors, photographers and graphic designers to help us produce a newspaper for students by students during the 2015-16 Fall and Spring semesters. Here's an opportunity to enhance your communication, writing, and photography skills to report on news events, feature stories and the buzz affecting Quincy College and its students on both the Quincy and Plymouth campuses. All levels of experience are welcome.

If you're interested and want more information, contact QC Voice Advisor, Al Young at qcvoicenews@gmail.com

Coming ...

All Clubs on Deck for new Student Life Director

By **JANE LEE**
QC Voice Staff

Like many new arrivals at Quincy College this fall, Amanda Deck has lots to learn. But unlike incoming students facing academic challenges, Deck has a different set of hurdles as the new Director of Student Life.

"I think being new is always an obstacle," Deck said. "I have to get acclimated to the institution, as well as to my position and responsibilities."

"I believe the largest hurdle will be student involvement. Finding students' interests, gaining club participation and keeping students engaged."

"It's all about time management and balancing projects and priorities."

Deck said Student Life is here to encourage involvement in campus life, support student initiatives and serve as a primary liaison for students.

"We provide structured and unstructured programs that foster student development, and community involvement," said Deck, who is in charge of running 17 different clubs on both the Quincy and Plymouth campuses.

Some of those organizations include: The French Club, The Chess Club, Gay/Straight Alliance, Phi Theta Kappa, Outdoor Club, Drama Society, and the Quincy College Voice student newspaper among others.

Prior to joining Quincy College, Deck was the Director of Student Activities, Leadership and Commuter Life at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in the Bronx, N.Y. She has a Masters degree in College Student Service Administration from the College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y., where she also received a



Photo: JANE LEE

Amanda Deck is in charge of 17 QC clubs.

bachelor's degree in Psychology and Criminal Justice.

Deck was also a three-time, first team All-America soccer player at Saint Rose and credits her athletic background for helping her develop in her professional career. "Absolutely," Deck said. "As an athlete, you have to be able to manage your time, manage the pressure of academics and athletics, and compete at

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... and Going



Photo: AL YOUNG

Gary Wallrapp packs it in after 14 years.

By **ALEX SOUTHER**
QC Voice Staff

Hidden deep on the 5th floor halls of Presidents Place was the office of Gary Wallrapp.

Yet, most had probably seen his face around campus, stopped by his office or perhaps listened to one of his presentations.

For the past 14 years, Wallrapp, the director of Career Services, Workforce

Gary Wallrapp: From Go-to Guy to Goodbye Guy

Development and Alumni Services, was Quincy College's go-to guy when it came to helping students learn valuable skills to fit their career choices and internship placements.

But now he is the goodbye guy.

A member of the QC staff since 2002, Wallrapp retired earlier this year.

"What I'm going to miss most," said Wallrapp, whose last day was Sept. 18, "is the day in day out interaction with students and helping them with a myriad of career issues, from choice of majors to occupational pursuits."

Upon meeting this man in person, the first thing you noticed was his engaging personality. His friendliness and eagerness to help the students were tremendous assets to the college and will sorely be missed.

The stacks of overflowing file boxes and overstuffed folders scattered on the office floor during his final days were a testament to the dedication and work he put into his job.

Asked what changes he had observed at QC over the years, Wallrapp pointed to the growth in class curricula, the effectiveness of faculty and staff, and a

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QC Voice Staff

Bobbi Bolster Kenneth Haley
Jane Lee Sakie Uchibori
Alex Souther

Advisor: Al Young

The QC Voice holds
staff meetings on
Monday & Tuesday
at various times TBD.

Contact us at qcvoicenews@gmail.com

CAMPUS EVENTS



Photo: MAMIE MARCUS

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

A large crowd filled the Quincy campus Conference Room Aug. 19 for the first of several New Student Orientation sessions during the summer. QC welcomed nearly 700 new students for the start of the Fall 2015 semester.



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH WINNERS

At right, Jelani Lewis and Jacqueline Polanco-Ramirez flash winning smiles for taking home the top prizes in the recent QC Hispanic Heritage Month Trivia contest. They received a \$25 gift card and a swag pack from the bookstore. Some 40 people took part in the event to help observe the month that runs from Sept. 15-Oct. 15

Photo: AMANDA DECK



Photo: AL YOUNG

9-11 OBSERVANCE

Zia Simon, a CJS Criminal Justice transfer student from Canton, mans a table in the Quincy campus lobby with American flags and fact sheets to commemorate the 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York City. QC observed a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. Sept. 11, when the first of two planes crashed into the twin towers, killing 2,996 people.



Photos: MAMIE MARCUS

CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATION

At left, QC Students Rica Polinice and Rochelle Cetoute take part in the Sept. 17 Quincy campus festivities, showing off their American flags. Mini copies of the U.S. Constitution and pieces of celebratory cake were also passed out.



Plymouth Campus News & Notes

New and returning students to the Quincy College Plymouth campus were greeted by several new programs and improvements for the 2015 Fall semester, highlighted by the recent grand opening of its new Physical Therapist Assistant Laboratory.

The new PTA program, approved last Spring, makes QC one of only six colleges in Massachusetts to offer this program.

Dr. Christine Rodday and new adjunct instructor **Dr. Veronica McLaughlin** are currently teaching the PTA courses.

The Plymouth campus has also added a Practical Nursing Program, leading to an LPN certificate. Heading the program this semester will be **Doreen Walsh**, who transferred from the Quincy campus, and colleague **Jane Cashorali**.

A third lab was built on the lower level to support the PNP and the Certified Nursing Assistant with construction underway in Suites 222 and 224 for new classrooms.

Among other changes to the ever-expanding facility, according to **Dean Mary Burke**, Vice President of Academic and Administrative Affairs, were the addition of new faculty offices located on the lower level in Suites 106 and 124.



Photo: DENISE MACCAFERRI

WATCH THOSE SCISSORS! Plymouth Dean Mary Burke (from left) and physical therapist students Desiree Silva, Bailee Sullivan, Gretchen Bobola, Alyssa Mello and Lisa Boyer watch as Christine Rodday, Instructor/Clinical Coordinator for the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, and QC President Peter H. Tsaffaras cut the ribbon to open the new PTA lab in September.

Several other classrooms on campus have also been renovated to accommodate the needs of students.

In addition to McLaughlin and Cashorali, who has worked in the nursing profession since 1994, there are several other new and returning faces this semester.

Among them: **Dr. Dennis Burke**, who has taught here in the past and has more than 30 years of nursing and allied health experience and holds a Doctorate of Chiropractic, will be teaching natural health science courses.

Joyce Higgins, who has taught computer science at the Quincy campus the past five years, will move over and handle the same courses here.

Roger White is no stranger to the Plymouth campus, working as the Student Development Associate the past seven years, but will be new to the business faculty.

Cynthia Grew, a 2013 QC Plymouth graduate with an Associate of Arts in Psychology, rejoins the Plymouth campus as a staffer in the Registrar's office.

**THE LAST DAY
TO APPLY
for Spring Graduation
is Friday,
Nov. 20, 2015**

Please visit
www.quincycollege.edu for
more information

TALKING TURKEY

President Peter H. Tsaffaras poses with the Plymouth Pilgrims mascot during Quincy College Night at Forges Field in July. The New England Collegiate Baseball League team treated family and friends of the QC community to hotdogs, hamburgers and soda in pregame festivities. Later, Tsaffaras tossed out the ceremonial first pitch before the Pilgrims took on the Keene Swamp Bats.

Photo: QUINCY COLLEGE MARKETING



Quincy Center's New Look

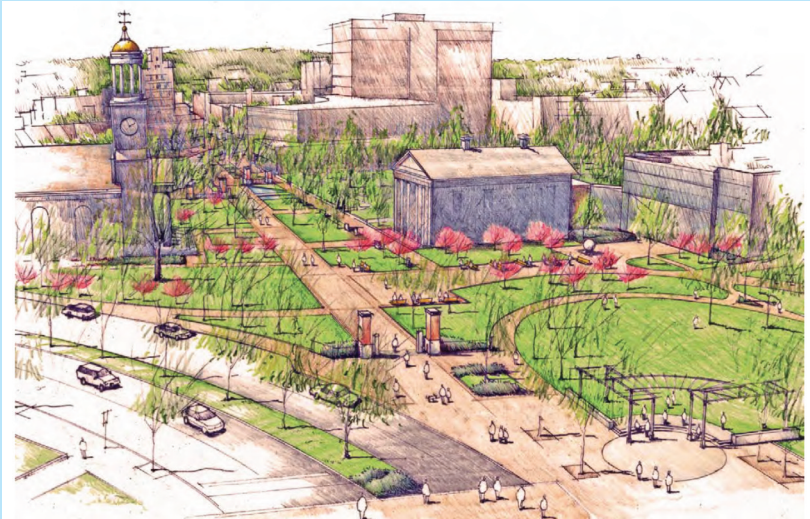


Photo: CITY OF QUINCY

The majority of construction and inconvenience currently taking place on the doorstep of Quincy College will transform into “Adams Green — The Future Centerpiece of Quincy Center.” This portrait shows the completed Adams Green, a contiguous urban park space that will knit together transportation, historical, and architectural assets, including the MBTA station, Old Town Hall, the United First Parish Church, the Thomas Crane Public Library, and the Hancock Cemetery. It will be a resource for students, faculty, staff and the community, just steps from our campus at Presidents Place.

New Student Life Director

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a high collegiate level all while being a leader on and off the field.

“I have developed a tremendous amount of drive, success and individual development from being an athlete that translates to where I am in my career today.”

While no longer scoring goals, Deck does have one in mind in her new role at QC.

“My goal within the next couple of years,” she said, “is to increase student involvement on campus, provide students with a welcoming and inclusive environment to learn and grow outside of the classroom, to build camaraderie and spirit on campus, as well as grow our athletic programs.”

To learn more about Student Life, and the variety of clubs and organizations it offers, stop by Deck’s office, Room 337 in Presidents Place or e-mail her at: adeck@quincycollege.edu

Go-to Guy to Goodbye Guy

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stronger sense of professionalism as the school continues to develop.

Over the years, Wallrapp’s duties were so vast the responsibilities of his position will now be divided among multiple individuals, with no one person expected to fill his entire role in all aspects.

Wallrapp said he’s “very pleased that more resources and staffing will be dedicated to career services, work force development and alumni services.”

He expects this will result in “a future of continued effectiveness in helping students achieve their full potential and self actualization.”

But Wallrapp’s work ethic not only had an impact on the QC students but also on his assistant, Blerina Mance, who joined his office last year.

“What I’m going to miss most, is the day in day out interaction with students...”

She pointed to his dedicated come-in-early, stay-late work regimen as infectious.

So what’s next for Gary Wallrapp?

A busy schedule, of course. One that includes a trip to the Galapagos Islands, time with his grandchildren, part-time consultant work and percussionist for TALZTOP, an acoustic Led Zeppelin tribute band in Boston.

So, even in retirement, Wallrapp will still be a man on the go.

New QC Campus Faculty

The Quincy College campus welcomed several new full-time faculty members for the 2015 Fall semester.

In the Academic Division of Liberal Arts are **Kelly Murray**, instructor of English and **Frederick Doyle**, instructor of Various Disciplines (PT) who is also teaching in the Division of Professional Programs.

In the Division of Natural & Health Sciences is **Elena Heineke**, assistant professor of Mathematics.

In the Division of Nursing are **Eileen Pappalardo**, assistant professor of Nursing; **Betty Cheng**, instructor of Nursing; **Annemarie Furtado**, instructor of Nursing; **Sileshi Mebrate**, instructor of Nursing; **Dorothy Megnia**, instructor of Nursing; and **Luann Sweeney**, instructor of Nursing.

In the Division of Professional Programs is **Raymond Guillet**, instructor of Business.