



The QC Voice

"A newspaper by students for students"

Spring 2016

Volume 9, Issue 3

Look Who's No. 1 . . . We Are!

By QC Voice Staff

Have you ever wondered what a Quincy College education would be worth once you graduate?

Well, guess no more.

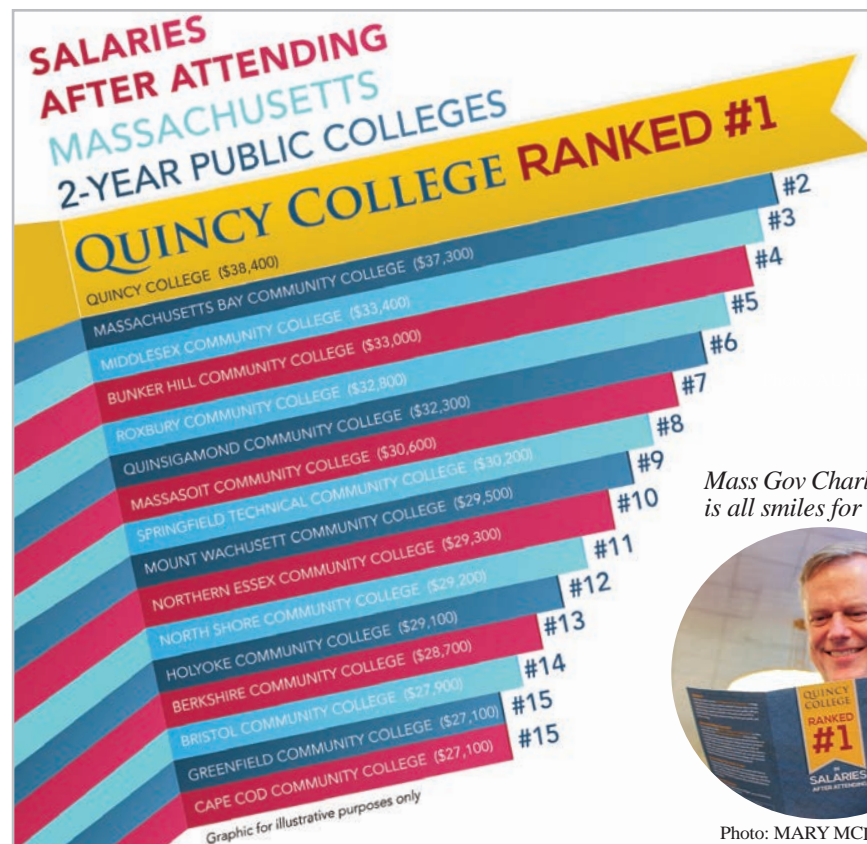
According to the latest data from the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard, Quincy College students are getting the most bang from their buck, ranking No. 1 as the top salary earners in Massachusetts and New England across two-year public colleges.

Currently, that figure stands at \$38,400, with second place going to Massachusetts Bay Community College at \$37,300, and third to Middlesex Community College at \$33,400.

In addition, Quincy College students ranked No. 5 in Massachusetts and No. 9 in New England for top salary earners among *all* two-year public and private colleges.

The U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard is a new White House initiative that helps students and their families make more educated decisions about choosing a college.

Each Scorecard focuses on five key areas about a college: 1) costs, 2) graduation rate, 3) loan default rate, 4) average amount borrowed, and 5)



Mass Gov Charlie Baker is all smiles for QC.



Photo: MARY MCLEOD

median earnings of former students who received federal financial aid, at 10 years after entering school.

"Our goal is to provide people with an education that allow them to become socially and economically productive members of society," said Quincy College President Peter H. Tsaffaras. "This information indicates we are

making progress on behalf of our students in achieving our goals."

QC, the state's only municipally affiliated public college, offers 35 Associate Degree programs and 21 Certificate programs in a variety of disciplines, including those within Professional Programs, Liberal Arts, Natural & Health Sciences and Nursing.



SPRING 2016 GRADUATION DEADLINE MARCH 31

The Spring 2016 Graduation Application period will close March 31, 2016. Students must submit a \$150 Graduation fee with the application. The Graduation application is available online and in the Registrar's office located on the second floor of Presidents Place and also at the Front Desk of the Plymouth Campus. Students can also apply online through the Quincy College Portal. The Spring Commencement will be May 27, 2016 at the South Shore Music Circus. For any questions, please contact Jenny Chan, Registrar Associate, at 617-984-1638 or at jchan@quincycollege.edu

President's Corner

Peter H. Tsaffaras, J.D.



It is hard to believe it is already March, and half the semester is gone. I hope that your semester is well under way, and you are enjoying your studies.

While we appreciate the days are getting longer, we can't help but think back to this time last year when we had 5 feet of snow on the ground. This year our snow days have been few and winter weather disruptions hardly noticeable on our campuses. Please join me in thanking our Campus Services department for keeping our walkways clear and our buildings accessible.

Thankfully, the weather doesn't stop progress at Quincy College. As the seasons change, spring will herald the resumption of several construction projects and the start of new ones as we continue improvements to our campuses.

As we settle into the new student services center on the second floor of Presidents Place, we have ongoing renovations in Saville Hall. We are also reviewing final plans for the new Admissions Office location on the first floor of Presidents Place, which will provide an ideal facility to welcome new students in an innovative and dynamic space.

In addition, we have engaged the services of a space planning consultant to expand, upgrade and maximize our Plymouth campus to support that growing Quincy College community.

All of these wonderful new facility updates and changes ensure our campuses reflect the high caliber of the education that Quincy College provides and, most important, provides you with a comfortable, practical and productive space for your educational goals.

The spring is also a time for planning at Quincy College, and this year is no exception. In addition to our Convivium and Commencement in May, we are planning an expansion of faculty and student activities. As always, our primary focus is teaching and learning and improving the student experience.

Don't forget to let us know how we are doing in supporting you. Join us for our monthly President's Unplugged meetings on the Quincy and Plymouth campuses and complete your student satisfaction surveys and class evaluations as you wrap up your semester. Your feedback on your Quincy College experience helps us exceed your expectations and provide you with the best education possible.

Stay focused on your studies as you look forward to the end of the semester. We look forward to working with you and reflecting on a great spring 2016 semester.

As we plan for the year ahead, it's clear that Quincy College is "On the Move."

INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER



Question: What do you think of Donald Trump running as a Republican candidate for President of the United States??

By AL YOUNG & ANDERSON ANJOS

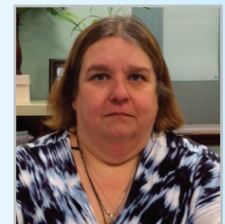
QC Voice Staff



Claudy St Jean

Major: Fine Arts Music
From: Weymouth

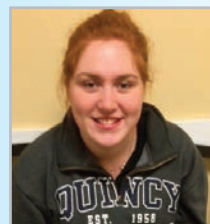
"I really don't think he is what America needs right now as a leader. I don't agree with his method. He is a little bit racist, and I don't think America needs that type of behavior for the presidency. We need somebody who is going to lead this country in the best way possible, not being a billionaire and being so aggressive. And he doesn't have a lot of respect for the other candidates, the way he talks about his mates is very embarrassing and rude. I just want to have the right man for the job."



Mary Jane Knox

Occupation: Quincy College
Financial Aid Associate
From: Jamaica Plain

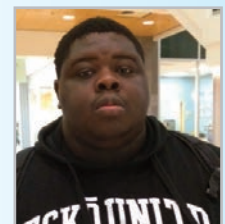
"There's nothing at all in his past that says he qualified to be President of the United States. As far as entrepreneurship, he's fantastic if you want the country to make money. That's great. If you want the country to go to war, he's definitely not my guy. He's not somebody I'm going to be voting for at all."



Nicole Schmitz

Major: Nursing
From: Whitman

"He doesn't really know what he's talking about. He has no experience in politics. He just says ridiculous things — out there things. But people listen to what he says because he's loud and obnoxious."



Josh Abraham

Major: Psychology
From: Randolph

"To be honest, I'm not really a Republican, and I'm not even a Democrat. But I think he embarrasses Republicans because what he's saying is kind of prejudice and racist. I think he's a disgrace."



50 years later, Aaron Levine still on a learning curve

By **KEN HALEY**

QC Voice Staff

During World War II, he served three years in the U.S. Navy. Afterward, he spent the next 50 years pursuing a career in journalism and public relations.

But Aaron Levine isn't done yet.

Despite a lengthy newspaper career that included stops at the Associated Press and the Des Moines Register in Iowa, followed by PR work for the U.S. Navy and the Raytheon Company, a major American defense contractor in Mass., Levine is still going strong.

Since 1997, Levine has been teaching Journalism at Quincy College.

You might say Levine is now preaching what he used to practice and enjoys passing on his knowledge to younger generations.

Believed to be the oldest instructor at Quincy College, Levine said his interest in news started at a very young age.

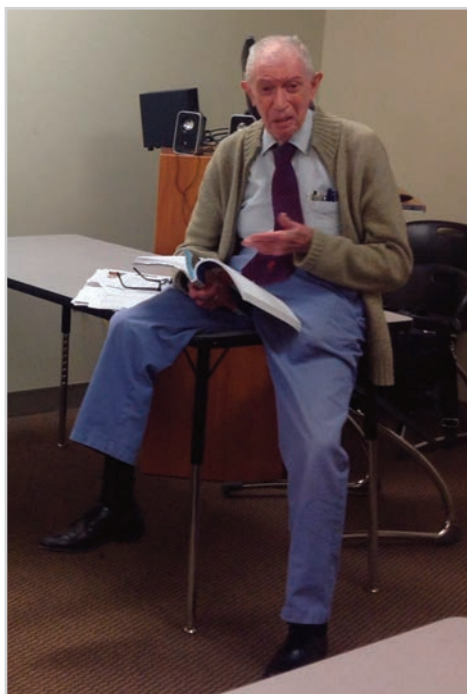


Photo: KEN HALEY

Aaron Levine has taught Journalism at QC since 1997.

"When I was in grade school I used to write a summary of the news on the

blackboard so the students could read it and see it at a glance," he recalled.

He went on to attend Iowa State Teachers College — now the University of Northern Iowa — where he lived in a boarding house and supported himself by shoveling snow before getting his first taste of journalism as a freelance writer for several local papers, including the Cedar Falls (Iowa) Daily Record.

Not only did Levine cover sports and other current events during his newspaper career, he also experienced some historic moments.

During his time in Iowa, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and other nearby airfields, such as Hickam Field, that drew the United States into World War II. When he and his housemates heard the news on the radio, it literally hit home.

"One of the guys who used to live in the house was at Hickam Field," Levine said. "The next morning a bunch of us

Continued on page 4

Open Mic Night adds musical zest to QC experience

By **KRISTIN DIMITROVA**

QC Voice Staff

We all know college is a place to go to gain knowledge and experience, achieve academic success, explore new interests and make new friends.

It's also a place to have fun. And Quincy College is no exception.

Since the Spring of 2010, QC's Plymouth campus has done its best to provide many of those experiences — especially the fun part — with an event called "Open Mic Night." It has given students and faculty an opportunity to perform and share their passion for

music of all forms from hip-hop to punk to rock to electronic dance and to network.

"Open Mic Night" was started by Dr. Ken Texeira, a professor in Psychology/Sociology on the Plymouth campus who is a former New York underground hip-hop performer.

"I met a bunch of cool students that wanted to make friends, and they were all musicians," recalled Texeira, still the Open Mic emcee. "Since I had a little speaker and some gear, we asked Susan Bossa (Associate Vice President of



Dr. Ken Texeira, aka Dr. Tex, performs at open mic night with the Life 1 band.

Continued on page 6

Online classes growing in courses and popularity

By **MELISSA SNOWDEN**

QC Voice Staff

Have you ever considered taking an online course but were not sure whether it would be a good fit? Did you know that Quincy College has been offering them since 2007?

In fact, more than 1,000 students — nearly one quarter of the entire student body — are taking online courses this semester.

Nine years ago, Quincy College began with two online courses.

Today, the school offers up to 45 online sections — ranging from Anatomy & Physiology to Accounting to English Composition 1 to Introduction to Computers to U.S. History and much more. By next fall, Quincy College hopes to offer complete degree programs online.

There are two types of online courses that you can enroll in: online and hybrid. Online courses are completed from a computer either on or off campus.

A hybrid class combines the same online class structure with additional weekly on-campus class meetings.

Some people are under the impression that online classes are an easy alternative to traditional classes. While these courses eliminate travel time to and from school and sitting in a classroom for 1¼ hours or more each day, the workload is not lessened. Students are expected to complete and turn in assignments by a certain day and time each week.

Those enrolled in online courses should be familiar with the QC Portal on the Website, where students can sign in and access their classes and account, turn in assignments, take exams and participate in class discussions.

Online courses are especially convenient for students who lead busy lives. Those with jobs, families and

The screenshot displays the Quincy College online portal for the course PSY 101 ON 1 - General Psychology. The interface includes a sidebar with navigation links such as Attendance, Course Information, Coursework, Discussion, Gradebook, Main Page, and Syllabus. The main content area features a 'Welcome' message, a calendar for January 2016, and sections for Announcements and Handouts. The calendar indicates that the first assignment will be due on Tuesday, January 20th, at 11:55 P.M. The Announcements section shows a message from Marilyn J. Barrett regarding the course. The Handouts section lists an instruction document.

Students taking online courses should be familiar with the QC portal.

other responsibilities find them especially attractive. All that is needed is a computer and access to the internet.

“While there are [assignment] deadlines to meet each week, the actual time of day and location of the workspace are up to the student,” says Dr. Michael Marrapodi, the Dean of Online Programs and Inter-Institutional Affairs.

As a student taking one online course in addition to four traditional courses, I like the ability to mix and match in a way that suits my schedule. There are 29 students in my online class — General Psychology, PSY 101 ON 1 — and we are given two to four coursework

assignments each week. There is also an assigned textbook.

One of the more interesting things about taking an online course is the discussion forum. On the QC Portal, the professor posts a new discussion question each week, and students are asked to post what they think.

“Just about anybody can take an online class,” says Marrapodi. “But students who are self-motivated, comfortable reading at a college level, comfortable with writing as their primary source of expression and good at time management will more likely do well in online courses.”

For more info, contact Marrapodi, at marrapodi@quincycollege.edu.

Aaron Levine *Continued from page 3*

marched down to the recruiting station and volunteered.”

In the Navy, he served on ships fighting WWII in the Pacific and had some pretty close calls. “A ship was blown up, torpedoed right next to us,” he said.

At Raytheon, during more peaceful times, he was involved in the publicity for the development of the Hawk, the

first mobile medium range guided anti-aircraft missile in the U.S.

As far as his future, Levine says one thing is for sure: the word retirement is not in it.

“Some of my family say, ‘maybe it’s time to hang it up,’ but I never have,” said Levine, who is coy about revealing his age. “I always try to think in terms of the future rather than the past. What’s ahead? Who knows?”

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS



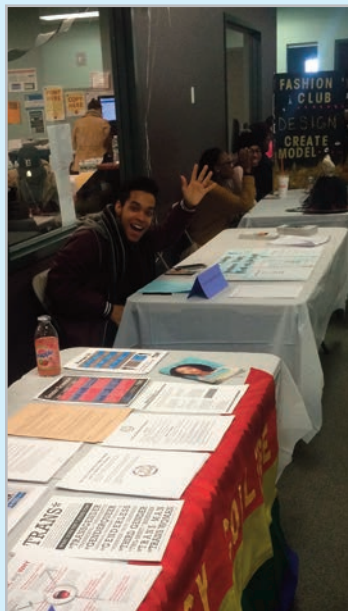
WINTER WELCOME & CLUB FAIR

Students had a chance to warm up in late January during Quincy College's Winter Welcome and Club Fair. Food, music, airbrush-paint artists, giveaways and games highlighted the event held on separate days on the Quincy and Plymouth campuses.

Clockwise from top left: Ashraff Blell, Verona Hibbert, Chloe Wright, Murielee Montes and Ana Jablonsky show off their freshly painted-name knit caps while Courtney Roberson (left) and Kimberly Dalton don their airbrush-painted scarves.

Many of QC's Student Life-sponsored Clubs were also on hand to market their clubs and recruit new members. Also taking part in the festivities were Issadorah Dorcsey, in front of Dimitri Revolus, Carl Lamar, Leonardo Javier and Chike Okonkbbdo.

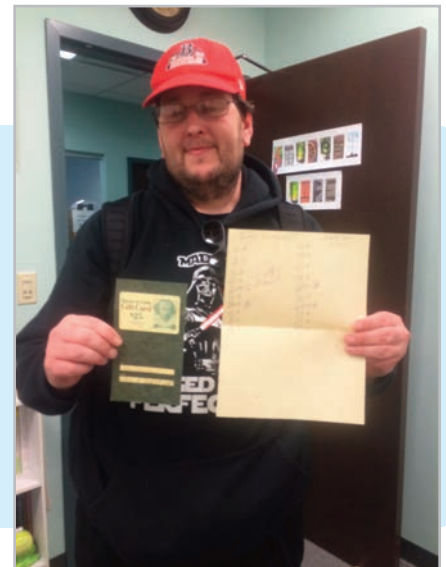
Photos: AMANDA DECK



BLACK HISTORY MONTH WINNERS

Jesse Grant (left) and Ian Sinclair had reasons to smile. They each walked off with a \$25 Gift Card from the QC Barnes & Noble Bookstore as the winners in two separate Student Life Black History Month Trivia contests on Feb. 18, with more than 40 students participating.

Photos: AMANDA DECK



QC News & Notes

By QC Voice Staff

Quincy College has announced the hiring of **Kate Lopci** as its new Director of Workforce Development and Community Engagement. In this newly created position, Lopci will work with area businesses to identify their needs for new and expanded workforce training programs and will pursue support and grant funding from Federal, State and private training program sources. She will also be developing non-credit skills and enrichment programs at QC. Most recently, Lopci has served as Director of Workforce Readiness for the United South End Settlements, a large community nonprofit agency serving the needs of Boston residents. Lopci's office is located on the 7th floor of Presidents Place, and she can be reached at klopci@quincycollege.edu.

After nearly three years of working with the Federal Highway Administration, the Department of Transportation and numerous state legislators, two new road signs (right) have recently gone up on Route 3, recognizing Quincy College and raising the visibility of the Plymouth campus in particular. One is located southbound after Exit 10 while the other is northbound after Exit 5.



QC Voice Staff

Amanda Deck
Kristin Dimitrova
Kenneth Haley
Melissa Snowden
Diane Thornton (Graphics)
Advisor: Al Young

The QC Voice holds staff meetings on Monday and Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in Presidents Place at a location TBA. Contact us at qcvoicenews@gmail.com

Help Wanted!

Come join the Staff of *The QC Voice* and have your Voice heard.

We're looking for writers and photographers to help us produce a newspaper for students by students.

Here's an opportunity to enhance your communication, writing, interviewing, and photography skills while reporting on news events, feature stories and the buzz around 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

Open Mic Night *Continued from page 3*

Student Development) if we could start it, and we've been doing it ever since."

Originally performed in the lobby of the Plymouth campus, then moved to a coffee shop in town, "Open Mic Night," is now held on the third Tuesday of every month, from 8 to 11 p.m., at the Black Raspberry Pub, adjacent to the Plymouth campus.

With the continued help of other original founders such as Ty Sanford, Steven Simpson and Brenden McCrae, along with sound man Andruw Coombes, "Open Mic Night" has grown in popularity and often attracts around 40 to 50 people to a show.

"We just started doing it to help build a community but it feels like we are family now." Teixeira said of the event now open for anyone to perform. "It is

hard to put into words how fun it is. I don't know anywhere you can go for free and listen to three hours of music."

As far as possibly expanding "Open Mic Night" to the Quincy campus,

Teixeira said, "If anyone knows of a good place to have it let me know, and we can start another one." He can be reached at: ktexeira@quincycollege.edu or 617-984-1740.



A look back at some of Open Mic Night's first year performers in 2010.