

Dear Campus Community,

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

Administration for Children Services (ACS) V-CRED Program

In collaboration with the **Administration for Children Services (ACS)**, the College hosted a press conference with Mayor Eric Adams who announced the launch of the Vocational Continuing Responsibility Education and Development (**V-CRED**) program. The program has several academic and industry partners, and provides professional certifications, paid internships and apprenticeships, as well as trauma-informed support services for youth ages 16-24.

Additionally, V-CRED provides vocational training and employment services in several career pathways: Information Technology; Electrician's Helper; Emergency Medical Technician-EMT; Certified Nursing Assistants; Electrocardiogram-EKG Technician; Pharmacy Technician; and Building Trades. Special thanks to **Osama Mansour**, Program Director, EMT/Paramedic and **Omar Serrano**, EMT Instructor. See the full announcement **here**: <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/157-22/mayor-adams-new-career-training-program-youth-foster-care>

Student Success Stories

Four (4) **Job Corps Scholars**, successfully completed training and entered employment as a Home Care Relations Coordinator at Centers Plan for Healthy Living, Medical Support Assistant at the US Veterans Health Administration, Veterinary Assistant at Petco, and Pet Care Assistant at Banfield Hospital.

Two (2) **CUNY Fatherhood Academy** graduates earned their High School diplomas and went on to complete college and career prep workshops. One graduate then enrolled in KCC's flex program and is interested in entering the school safety field while pursuing a career in education. The other graduate applied to the college and is interested in the Maritime Technology program.

Center for Career Development & Experiential Learning

Marisa Joseph, Director of Career Services, co-presented with colleagues **Hattie Elmore** and **Helen-Margaret Nasser** at CUNY's 3rd Annual Career Compass for Women Leaders Conference. The breakout session, *Collaborate, Don't Compete: Women Supporting Women in the Workplace*, focused on collaboration, support, and creating a safe space for other women colleagues.

We held the first on-campus **Job and Internship Fair** since March 2020, hosting 15 employers and 54 students. Students had the opportunity to meet with employers to apply for part-time, full-time, and internship opportunities.

The Center hosted a **Career Conversation Series** this past month serving 31 students. Guest speakers were **Bureau Chief Johanne Macajoux** from the Brooklyn DA's office, **Commissioner Gary Jenkins** from NYC's Department of Social Services and KCC Alumnus **Brian Suckie**. Students were able to have meaningful conversations about planning for their careers and learn what steps should be taken to be successful in those careers.

The Center continues to be available to facilitate career workshops for our students. Topics include: Resume-athon, How to Ace the Interview, How to Land a Job and more. Further details about these workshops and a request form can be found on this page: <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/career/career/facultyandstaff.html>.

We are hosting a journalism career workshop and a social media etiquette workshop this month. Both events are open to all students. Please refer your students to Career Wave (<https://kbcc-csm.symplicity.com/students>) for more information and to register for these events.

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 or phone at (718) 368-5115.

Grant Updates

Offshore Training Tower - \$3 million

In collaboration with the Maritime Technology program and Captain John Nappo, we received \$3 million in funding for the newly branded Offshore Wind Training center that will include the design and construction of 2 Crew Transfer Vessel (CTV) Simulation Labs and a Global Wind Organization (GWO) certified climbing tower. This project will provide the necessary CTV labs and GWO certified climbing structure to become the first and only GWO certified training facility within NYC, continuing the college's mission of providing hands-on technical training in the maritime trades. GWO certified training is an internationally recognized standard required by many OSW companies. The industry is a growing field that will create new clean energy job opportunities within NYC and NYS. The climbing tower will allow for GWO Basic Safety Training (BST) working at heights with a manual handling module.

The labs will provide students with the virtual simulation of CTVs that allows for the realistic transfer of control between the main bridge and bridge wing as well as the realistic docking and undocking of vessels. The benefits of utilizing simulators in crew training for operations in the OSW industry include being a cost-efficient alternative compared with training at sea. Students can practice crisis management in a safe environment and instructors can assess, screen, and close any competency gaps. This technology can provide a realistic simulation that allows for pre-mission planning and technical and operational skills training in both routine and non-routine scenarios. More details to follow on the Offshore Wind Center.

Offshore Wind- \$288,000

CUNY Central awarded the Offshore Wind Consortium **\$198,000** to support the creation of the Bridge to Offshore Wind seminar in collaboration with LaGuardia Community College and New York City College of Technology. Additionally, KCC was funded **\$90,000** to pursue efforts in becoming a Global Wind Organization certified training site.

Community Farm and Garden - \$1,000

The Community Farm and Garden received a **\$1,000** grant from the **Hardy Plant Society** which will support the redevelopment of the farm, making it more accessible to children, older adults, and neurodiverse visitors by increasing accessibility to accommodate people with various disabilities. Funds will also support farm structures and supplies.

We submitted a **\$600,000 proposal** to **New York State's Workforce Development Initiative for KCC TechTrack**, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)/User Experience (UX) training program. AI is an umbrella term for tech that uses data to develop the technology that powers smartphones, virtual assistants, streaming platforms, chatbots and facial recognition software. KCC will partner with Reclassify AI, an advanced data analytics and management tech firm in NYC that also delivers training to young adults interested in AI and related careers. KCC's successful UX Design training program will be offered to students wishing to learn skills to supplement their new AI knowledge.

Community Farm and Garden

The farm and garden is waking up from winter and initial work has begun. We replaced the plastic on the hoop house and planted two lilac bushes in barrels which will be placed in a permanent location once renovations are complete. The seven (7) trees planted around the space have started to bud. Currently, we are digging up the deep weed runners (how weeds spread underground) to thwart the worst weeds from establishing. We started some limited seedlings for educational purposes and plan on a bigger propagation with the goal of planting in preparation for warm weather crops for the summer.

Leon Goldstein High School will continue using class beds on a weekly basis. **Chef David Goldberg** will continue his Wheat research project and **Chef Naxielly Dominguez** will host a seedling propagation cart in the culinary arts kitchen. This will allow her to grow microgreens with students and to harvest them directly from the cart for plating and decoration as well as to generate interest in the KCC CFG with the culinary students. **Prof. Grace Axler-Diperte** will conduct soil research with her biology students this semester.

Students from **SUNY Downstate Medical Center** and **School of Public Health** visited the farm to learn about propagating seeds in support of their nutrition coursework among students and the local community in and around central Brooklyn.

Initial days for existing volunteers started, including hoop house repair. The garden will be opening weekly volunteer days and service-learning opportunities this spring. Please contact Dr. Shannon Caravello via email at Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu for more information.

Review all the updated work on the farm Instagram page **here**:

https://www.instagram.com/kcc_cfg/

Program Updates

The **First Course NYC Program** is a partnership with NYC Small Business Services which offers underserved New York City residents the opportunity to break into the competitive field of culinary arts as an apprentice. The program provides hands-on training from the best culinary professionals the city has to offer. The 14-week program includes eight weeks of classroom kitchen training followed by six weeks of on-the-job training with respected NYC restaurants. The college's first cohort started on March 28th, with Chef Jhack Sepulveda of Eat Good Consulting and Chef Christopher Faulkner, former head chef at NYC's exclusive Soho House leading the charge. In addition to culinary training, all students receive a daily stipend and metro-card for participation in the program. Currently, we are recruiting for three additional cohorts. If interested, please sign-up for an informational session **here**.

Three (3) student cohorts successfully completed the **UX Microcredential program** in partnership with EverUp and the New York Jobs CEO Council. One student chose to enroll into Kingsborough's new UX concentration in the Graphic Design and Illustration Program, after earning 6 credits through the microcredential program.

CUNY Fatherhood Academy - We are recruiting now for the Spring. Students will be prepared for the GED exam, provided with support around seeking employment and enrolling into college as well as workforce development training. Students participate in parenting group sessions and receive individual supportive services, gift cards, MetroCards, and stipends. GED program is open to 18-30-year-old fathers or expectant fathers who are pursuing their GED/High School Equivalency. Please direct interested and eligible applicants to sign up [here](#).

Job Corps Scholars - To date, 85 students have enrolled and received supportive personal, employment and college readiness services. We are recruiting now for Spring 2022. Sign up for an information session [here](#) and learn more about the program by contacting KCCJob.Corps@kbcc.cuny.edu. Students will receive free continuing education training in health, technology or business, employment readiness services, and assistance with job placement, college enrollment support, and individual counseling.

CompTIA - This is a free program for individuals interested in information technology, PC hardware and software. Network+ is the only industry certification that covers both wired and wireless networks. CompTIA's Network+ validates the knowledge and skills needed to troubleshoot, configure and manage wired and wireless networks found in companies around the world. Students receive employment readiness support, job placement assistance and access to paid internships. Recruiting now for Spring and Summer 2022. Sign up for more information about the program [here](#).

DesignWorks is recruiting for Cohort 3 (Summer 2022). Students will learn about user experience design, have access to workshops, employment readiness support, job placement assistance, and college enrollment support. [Contact us](#) for more information about how to apply.

We launched the College's partnership with **Generation USA**. Students enrolled in the 12-week online program will jump-start their careers as IT Support Specialists. Upon completion, graduates will have the opportunity to explore different options: apprenticeships, internships, continuing education programs, or full-time employment. Learn more about the admissions process and support benefits [here](#).

Personnel

Congratulations **Dr. Shannon Caravello**, community farm and garden administrator. She completed a Doctorate of Public Health (DrPH) in Environmental and Occupational Health from SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University.

Spring Catalog

Registration started and the spring classes will begin on April 4. The **Spring Catalog** can be found here: <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/courses.html>.

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.

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

Kind Regards,