KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2001 Oriental Boulevard Brooklyn, New York 11235-2398

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 5, 2013

Dear Friends,

It is with a touch of sadness but great appreciation that I write to you today to share with you that I will be stepping down as president of Kingsborough Community College at the end of the summer.

These past nine years have been extraordinary ones for me. They have been challenging, creative, exciting, productive, and a great deal of fun. I have met incredible people here – individuals who have taught me a great deal and whose memory will be with me for years to come. Kingsborough faculty, staff, and students are the best in the country, and it has been a true privilege to work with each of you.

This is a great college. Nowhere do I believe is there an institution like Kingsborough that has combined the academic excellence with the sense of caring and community that resides here. Throughout my career I have rarely found a group of individuals - faculty, staff, and board members - filled with such compassion, commitment, and dedication to our students' success. Each day, in every way, regardless of function or position, individuals come together with unanimity of purpose - that is, to give our students the opportunity to achieve their educational goals and to provide them with the supports they need to do so. It is the extra special attention and hard work that is put in by our amazing buildings and grounds staff and public safety personnel to create an environment that dignifies and respects the students who study here and the faculty and staff who work here. It is the kindness and caring that is demonstrated by our admissions and student services professionals from the first time our students set foot on this campus to their graduation. It is the excellent teaching of the faculty and the time they give to students outside the classroom. It is all those who work in the offices of the bursar, human resources, financial aid, and the registrar, who understand the struggles of our students and staff and who find a way to help solve the problems that are brought to them every day. It is the continuing education personnel and programs that encourage people of every age to follow their dreams and know that it's never too late to learn something new. It is all these people and all these incredible actions that send the message loud and clear to every student on this campus that we care and we will do all that it takes to help them succeed. How many large, public institutions can say that? At Kingsborough it's a truth that is lived each day. Kingsborough is simply an extraordinary place - a learning environment characterized by collegiality, intelligence, academic rigor, and caring.

I've been lucky to have had a wonderful career that has spanned 50 years, most of it in higher education. It has been more rewarding than I could have ever imagined or hoped for. It's been a gift to be a part of the remarkable life altering changes that occur each day on college

campuses and particularly at Kingsborough. We do important and noble work. Don't let anyone ever tell you otherwise.

I am confident that the college will continue to thrive, because what makes this institution special beyond those who work and study here are the values and culture that have sustained this institution over time. Throughout our college's 50-year history, many different presidents, professors, and staff have each brought their special gifts to this institution; yet, our core values have remained constant. Those values are expressed in the belief of everyone here that all students have a right to higher education and, given the appropriate supports, can succeed. There is the culture and drive for excellence in everything that is done here. There is the cooperation between and among departments and between faculty and administration that creates the family spirit and the colleagueship that pervades the classrooms, offices, and hallways. Those values are enduring. That spirit has buoyed this institution in its good times, and they have sustained it when the going got rough.

I thank you all for your support, your cooperation, your tolerance of my mistakes, your willingness to work hard, and your commitment to always giving your best. It's been a wonderful nine years. I will miss you.

Warm regards,

Regina S. Peruggi

President