

Student Affairs March Updates

Colleagues,

Please note the following updates in the Division of Student Affairs.

PERSONNEL

- Congratulations to Vice President Peter M. Cohen on his retirement! After more than 30 years, his legacy of student-centric support will remain paramount in the foundation of Student Affairs and the college. We wish VP Cohen the best in his new chapter.
- The Director of Student Wellness position has been posted. You can view the listing [HERE](#)

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

- Our Women's Center collaborated with faculty and staff to deliver another successful Women's History Month. Special acknowledgments to Hattie Elmore, Helen Nasser, Dr. Catherine Ma, Dr. Red Washburn, Dr. Brian Hack, Joan Oliveri, Dr. Eric Conte, NYC Men Teach, Dr. Kevicha Elchols, Dr. Keisha Thompson, Student Life & Jadzia Dalziel for their partnership and support.

GRAB-N-GO FOOD PANTRY BAGS

- During the pandemic, our pantry has continued this important service through Grab-n-Go bags housed at our campus front gate. The Access Resource Center and CUNY Edge program spearheaded this initiative and with the support and collaboration of our Office of Public Safety, who have distributed these Grab-n-Go bags to our local community, faculty, staff, and CUNY students. Families are able to access this resource Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, and once a week to ensure they have meals during the week. This past year, our pantry has served **4,579** families with staff preparing 30-60 Grab-n-Go bags weekly.

ACCESS-ABILITY SERVICES

- Access-Ability Services is offering the following for students:
 - Virtual Office Hours - Tuesdays & Thursdays 3pm-5pm
Use Zoom ID: 718 368 5175 or click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7183685175>
 - Virtual Study Hall - Mondays and Tuesdays: 10am - 12pm and Wednesdays and Thursdays: 2pm - 3pm
Use Zoom ID: 718 368 3382 or click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7183683382>

ACCESS-RESOURCE CENTER & NEW AMERICAN CENTER

- ARC is hosting 2021 Tax Vertical Services for the KCC Community, please see the flyer for more information

**2021 TAX VIRTUAL SERVICES
FOR KCC COMMUNITY!**

arc.kcc@kbcc.cuny.edu | 718-368-5411/6713 | @kbccaccessresourcecenter

Did you make \$68K or less? If so you are more than welcome to participate in this FREE service.

ARC is starting their 2020 Tax season waiting list. Taxes will begin on January 25, 2021. Once the Tax Season starts you will be contacted to receive a secure dropbox link. An IRS Certified Tax Preparer will contact you to complete your taxes remotely.

Documents Needed:

- Original social security cards for all family members
- Birthdays for all family members
- Government state picture I.D.
- Wages - W2, W2-G, 1099 R, 1099 Misc
- 1089-T - Tuition
- Childcare Expenses & Provider Information
- Direct Deposit - confirm routing & account numbers
- IP - PIN - IRS Identity Fraud assigned number
- Unemployment Statements - available online only
- Notice 1444 - Economic Impact Payment Statement
- Health Insurance 1095




ATHLETICS

- As the 2020-2021 CUNY Athletic Conference season has been paused, our Athletics Program has engaged in eSports to continue to recruit and afford opportunities for our students to be engaged. As we approach the last few weeks of competition, we have two students who should enter the finals in both *FIFA* and *HEARTHSTONE*.
- We are working with CUNY Central to develop our return to sports on campus.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS

- We are working with incoming First-Year and Transfer students to complete their SPARC training. This training is mandated for all incoming students. In addition, we have developed the following graphic, in collaboration with the Office of Communications.

MEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

- The Men's Resource Center, in collaboration with Student Wellness, hosted a Pan-Asian/Asian Pacific Islander Healing Circle on Monday, March 22nd. A resource guide has also been developed to provide more information, you can view it [HERE](#).
- **Brother to Brother Olympus HS Mentoring Program** - The Men's Resource Center is re-launching its Brother to Brother mentoring program at Olympus High School. The MRC will conduct bi-monthly meetings for high school students discussing topics ranging from, but not limited to, self-perception to overcoming obstacles for a cohort of students who identify as male.
- **LGBTQQIA+ Mental Health & Self-Care workshops** - In collaboration with the Student Wellness Center and Men's Resource Center, a workshop series will be produced to cover mental health, self-care, and safety for LGBTQQIA+ students. The workshops will focus on the

following areas: questioning and coming out during COVID, exploring mental health and self-care tools for our LGBTQQIA+ community, and address intersectional aspects of LGBTQQIA+ identities that include race and ethnicity adults and emerging adults. We will be focusing additionally on the value of routine and safety for LGBTQQIA+ individuals via a holistic and inclusive lens, as well as discussing the value of self-affirmative practices in routine. We will also attempt to deconstruct normative concepts of gender binary based in cultural definitions to affirm identities.

- **The Men's Resource Center is looking for Mentors** - The MRC is actively looking to hire some amazing students who would like to serve as mentors. Mentors will undergo weekly trainings and are fully supported by the MRC staff as the work to support our mentees. If you know any students who would be interested contact Michael Rodriguez, michael.rodriguez@kbcc.cuny.edu or have them apply using this [LINK](#).

MILITARY AND VETERAN AFFAIRS

- Military & Veteran Affairs continues to keep in touch & connect with our students via bi-monthly check-in calls & text messages, and regular emails to ensure students have the information & resources they need to make it a successful semester. Workshops will be offered for CUNYfirst, DegreeWorks, Probation, and Benefits to further support our population.

STUDENT WELLNESS

- We are rebranding our Counseling Services to be more holistic and inclusive, which will be known as **STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICES**. This rebranding is supported by national best practices to destigmatize mental health and counseling services. **STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICES** will include Student Counseling, Health Services, Wellness Center, and the Women's Center.
- Student Engagement & Support – As of 3/29, 1,022 students have participated in workshops, mental health check-ins, student support sessions, targeted outreach initiatives and/or are currently part of counselor caseloads
- **CUNY CRISIS TEXT LINE** - Students have access to the newly established **CRISIS TEXT LINE**. The **CRISIS TEXT LINE**, in collaboration with CUNY Central, is a not-for-profit organization offering crisis counseling access, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This tool is a service that provides students access to a trained Crisis Counselor, not employed by CUNY, to assist in problem-solving and safety planning. Students can text **CUNY** to **741741** to start.

STUDENT LIFE

- Student Life hosted eight virtual events to welcome new and returning students to KCC including BINGO for Books where we distributed \$2,000 in gift cards to the bookstore. Most engagement is currently happening on Instagram and we encourage everyone to follow us @KCCStudentLife.
- After advocating behind the scenes for the Credit/No-Credit Policy extension, Student Government is energized to be more student facing this semester by partnering with KCC's Student Wellness Services, KCC's Access-Ability Services, and CUNY Votes to connect students with self-advocacy services on campus and beyond. We are now looking forward to recruiting the next cohort of SGA leadership; more information regarding the upcoming elections to follow. Connect with Student Government @KCCSGA on Instagram.

TRiO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The TRiO Student Support Services Program will commence hosting *Open Zoom* sessions; details to follow. All are welcome. Come and ask about TRiO, the campus program with a high graduation rate. In the interim, feel free to contact the director, Faith.Fogelman@kbcc.cuny.edu.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Brian R. Mitra
Dean of Student Affairs