

GENERAL FACULTY REPORT
Enrollment Management & Strategic Academic Initiatives
Fall 2016

The division of Enrollment Management and Strategic Academic Initiatives is responsible for the oversight of the offices of Academic Advisement and New Student Orientation, Financial Aid Services, International Student Services, Registrar, Testing and Evaluation, SEEK and Undergraduate Admissions which all play integral roles in managing the enrollment and programming for the College's undergraduate and graduate student populations.

Enrollment

Fall 2016 enrollment stands at **18,287** which is down approximately 140 from the Fall 2015 term. We welcomed approximately 1,400 freshmen, 1,800 transfers, and 1,115 graduate students this term. Our overall enrollment target for spring 2017 is currently **18,200** but is subject to revision.

International Student Office (ISSC)

In preparation of the fall semester, ISSC conducted several new student orientations for incoming international students, with a specific focus on restructuring the programming developed for freshmen and transfer undergraduate students. The fall orientation program was a weeklong, comprehensive experience for students, allowing for testing, registration and administrative requirements to be met consecutively rather than on various dates throughout the summer.

Orientations and workshops offered by the office have assisted 3,840 undergraduate, graduate and exchange program students.

In addition, ISSC is enthusiastically working in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Provost for Global Strategies on the newly created Global Cultural Exchange Mentor Program and is looking forward to a more inclusive celebration of the U.S. International Education Week beginning on November 14, 2016.

SEEK

This academic year, SEEK has collaborated with the Alumni Relations Office in a new initiative called Shadow Partners. The program has been created for sophomore students and will provide opportunities for students to receive mentorship from engaged alumni and offer opportunities for workplace visits.

Financial Aid

Starting the Fall of 2016 students are able to file for aid beginning October 1- a full 3 months earlier than previously allowed. An additional change to federal financial aid filing allows students the ability to use **tax information from two years prior to application year rather than the current one-year prior standard** when reporting personal and family income. **This change will increase the accuracy of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) and give families an earlier and more accurate idea of their anticipated financial aid and college costs.**

The earlier submission date was implemented to allow schools to deliver student award letters earlier; the execution of this in CUNYfirst is still to be determined.

Success Network

In its second year of programming, the Success Network continues to offer academic support to incoming underrepresented minority students. The 2016 cohort has grown to 100 students and the initiative has grown to offer targeting programming and support for students in their sophomore and junior years. The program supports diversity initiatives with STARR CDC and has partnered with Student Life for leadership training with TEAM Baruch.

Housing

Out of 344 beds, 324 have been filled. This number includes 46 students residing in the hall that are Out-of-State students and 34 international students. Our Out-Of State student population represents 16 states. Our 34 international students represent 19 countries in the residence hall. Baruch Housing began the semester with more vacancies than initially projected, 20 vacancies instead of 12, however – a stringent cancellation policy has recoup partial funds from each student. 17 cancellations within the 3 days prior to the August 21st move-in resulted in vacancies that were difficult to fill given the late August date.

CUNY Assessment Test: ACCUPLACER

The City University of New York has been administering the CUNY Assessment Tests to determine basic proficiency in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics, and to help English and Mathematics departments place students into developmental and credit-bearing courses. CUNY has administered the Compass assessment suite, a product of ACT Corporation, to test student in reading and mathematics, and its home grown CAT-W, to assess writing skills. Last year ACT announced the discontinuation of Compass, effective October 2016. As an alternative, CUNY selected the College Board's ACCUPLACER as the instrument for assessing readiness in mathematics and reading. The implementation of ACCUPLACER requires a total revamp of the CUNY Assessment Test testing platform, databases, and the operating systems. The Office of Testing and Evaluation in conjunction with Baruch Computing and Technology Center must upgrade the computers, hardware, and software in the testing labs. In addition, the Office of Testing and Evaluation is in the process of modifying its CUNY Assessment test scheduling, administration and reporting systems to accommodate the new changes.

In conjunction with the English and Mathematics departments, the Office of Testing and Evaluation is working on establishing course placement modules. Faculty members from both departments will complete the ACCUPLACER reading and mathematics components to assess subject content, test requirements and scores during the period October 5 – 19th, 2016. The faculty members will then establish the placement guidelines to be used by the Office of Testing and Evaluation for course placements for incoming students spring 2017 and thereafter.