

## Message from the President



The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) evaluation team visits at our Woodland Park and Midtown Manhattan campuses are ready to begin next week.

During their visits, the Middle States team members will be engaging in discussions with students, faculty, and staff. This is your opportunity to share how you support students and advance the mission of Berkeley College in your role every day.

I am proud of the leadership of the MSCHE Self-Study Steering Committee and of the collaboration of the Working Groups, the college-wide conversations, and the introspection that took place throughout the Self-Study process. Engaging in this process heightens our awareness about how well we are fulfilling our mission of empowering students to achieve lifelong success in dynamic careers.

The cycle of reaccreditation and assessment is an ongoing process. In measuring our effectiveness, we identify opportunities for delivering on our mission and best serving our students through teaching and learning experiences shaped by our institutional values: Students First, Applied Learning, Integrity, Respect, and Renewal.

[Click here](#) to view the MSCHE Self-Study report for New York and [click here](#) to view the MSCHE Self-Study report for New Jersey. (For more details on the MSCHE evaluation team visits, see page 2). I strongly encourage you to review how your input and engagement have been manifested in the recommendations incorporated into our reports.

Enjoy this issue of  
The Berkeley Post.

– Michael



## FOCUS ON: ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

### Team Provides Support, Balance to Students on Path to Graduation

Academic Advisement focuses on a student's progress from his or her first semester until he or she reaches the graduation stage. From offering support to building confidence and helping students balance academic and personal goals, the Academic Advisement team is there every step of the way.

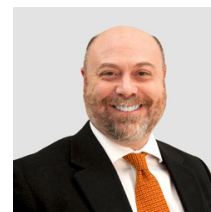
Diane Recinos, Ed.D., Senior Vice President, Student Success, and Joseph Giuffre, Associate Vice President, Academic Advisement, recently discussed the important work of their team, on the front lines of student success.



Academic Advisement team



Diane Recinos, Ed.D.  
Senior Vice President, Student Success



Joseph Giuffre, Associate Vice President, Academic Advisement

#### How does Academic Advisement help a student balance his or her academic, career, and personal goals?

Academic Advisors continually meet with students to discuss their progress. During these discussions the main topic is always balance. A student's personal, academic, and financial needs may vary, depending on the time of year. The Academic Advisor helps the student carefully consider all these factors, including motivation, time management, and future expectations, and helps the student choose the courses and schedules that he or she needs to progress to graduation. Helping the student keep an eye on the prize, stay focused, and feel successful are all critical to the balance the student needs to move ahead.

#### How does the Academic Advisement team measure success?

Success for the Academic Advisement team varies – from getting those small wins, to recognizing the larger accomplishments. Often students come to Academic Advisement hesitant, resistant, and even unrealistic about what it means to pursue a college education. The Academic Advisement team can see success as the student develops more confidence, asks for help when he or she needs it, or is excited about passing a class.

(continued on page 2)

## Berkeley College: Who Are We?

We each have a perspective about our identity as an institution. This identity starts with the students we serve. See the "Who are We?" section in the Middle States Self-Study document (pages 3 to 8) to learn more about our students and their academic pursuits.

[Click here](#) to watch a video about Berkeley College, from its history to the present day.

(continued from page 1)

### What new initiatives are taking place in Academic Advisement?

After Academic Advisement moved toward a cohort model in 2016, our newest initiative has been using Inspire for Advisors. This program builds better relationships with students, fosters a sense of caring, and enhances human-to-human contact using an analytical platform to inform and inspire specific outreach. The next two initiatives we will launch to complement the Inspire platform is Degree Map and Course Scheduler. These tools will help the student and Academic Advisor with better long-term planning.

### What qualities make an Academic Advisor successful? Share why Academic Advisors at Berkeley College are passionate about their careers.

Academic Advisors must be student-centered, resilient, and empathetic in order to build strong relationships with their students. Far beyond providing a basic course schedule, they must be able to understand what a student truly needs to be successful. Our Academic Advisors enjoy learning students' stories and seeing their progress over time, as they become self-sufficient, build confidence, and achieve their goals.

### Middle States Update

Following a comprehensive, two-year Self-Study process, the final versions of the Berkeley College Self-Study reports for New Jersey and New York were submitted to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) in February 2018. The Self-Study reports examine the College's educational programs, policies and services, and determine how well these programs accomplish its goals, fulfill its mission, and meet MSCHE standards.

MSCHE team visits, led by David Cohen, President, Five Towns College (New Jersey), and Beth Tarquino, Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, Bryant & Stratton College (New York), will be held the weeks of March 18, 2018 and March 25, 2018, respectively.



## Academic Advisement Fast Facts

### 55 Team Members

*including Deans and Assistant Deans, Student Success Coordinators, Administrative Assistants and Central Support Staff*

### 190+ Students

*in the cohort of each Academic Advisor*

### 3+ Meetings

*between an Academic Advisor and a student each term*

## Survey Examines Communications at the College

In January 2018, a survey asked associates to give their feedback about the newsletters, emails, and other communications that come from the Office of Communications and External Relations and other departments. More than 600 associates gave their feedback through the survey – a 39 percent response rate.

The survey asked about the topics that interest associates, how often they like to receive news, and what platforms are most effective. It also was an opportunity for associates to share big ideas on initiatives such as increasing the usage of Yammer.

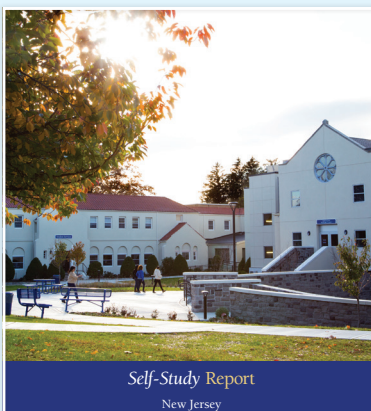
The Office of Communications and External Relations is reviewing the survey with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and will examine trends that can guide the delivery of college news, ensuring that it continues to engage and inform all associates and students.

Thank you for your feedback!

## View the Final Reports

[Self-Study Report, New Jersey](#)

[Self-Study Report, New York](#)



 Berkeley College



 Berkeley College

## MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST: Faculty Share Best Practices on Closing the Loop of Assessment



In January 2018, Berkeley College observed Assessment Appreciation Month for the first time. In celebration of this month, Academic Affairs teams traveled to various campuses to work with faculty

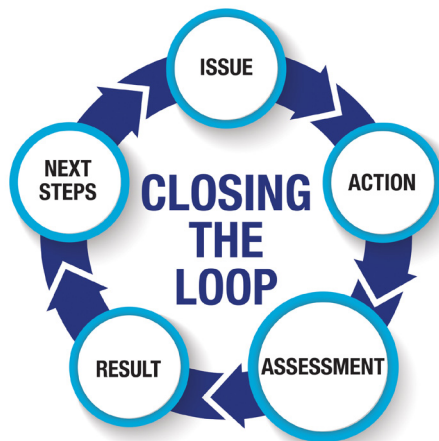
on reaching the following outcomes:

- To understand learning outcomes assessment activities at the classroom, department, school, and College levels
- To engage with learning outcomes assessment data at the school and department levels
- To reflect on the ways faculty, Chairs, and Deans have used learning outcomes assessment data to recognize issues, take action, and see if those actions worked
- To share ideas for future uses of learning outcomes assessment data

Faculty worked with their colleagues to recognize and share best practices in “closing the loop” of assessment to make teaching and learning more effective at Berkeley College.

The Academic Affairs teams conducted 15 on-site workshops and one synchronous Skype workshop that allowed faculty to review the 2016-17 School and Department Learning Outcomes Assessment Reports.

*The Academic Affairs teams conducted 15 on-site workshops and one synchronous Skype workshop that allowed faculty to review the 2016-17 School and Department Learning Outcomes Assessment Reports.*



Some faculty chose to attend with others in their department or school so that they could focus in on work that is specific to their degree program or discipline. Others chose to work in mixed groups in order to share their own assessment knowledge while learning about assessment activities across the College.

Because Academic Outcomes Assessment is a process of continuous improvement, faculty discussions ranged from the results of changes that Berkeley College has already made (such as Semester Conversion); to changes that are currently in process (the addition to the curriculum of Career Development I and II); to changes that are upcoming (the conversion from Blackboard to the Canvas Learning Management System). In all cases, faculty emphasized the importance of ongoing assessment in order to ensure that Berkeley College will continue to be the college of choice for students pursuing lifelong success in dynamic careers and employers seeking graduates prepared to meet the demands of the global marketplace.

Thanks to all the faculty for their attendance, engagement, and great ideas. We look forward to continuing our process of Academic Outcomes Assessment and to getting back together in January 2019 to see what we will accomplish this upcoming year!

– Beth Castiglia, Ph.D.  
Provost



Faculty review the 2016-17 School and Department Learning Outcomes Assessment Reports and discuss best practices during Assessment Appreciation Month workshops in January 2018.



## STRATEGIC PLANNING BUILDS ROADMAP TO DEPARTMENTAL OBJECTIVES

Strategic planning on the department level allows associates to collaborate, conceptualize, and implement a roadmap in an agreed-upon direction. Rather than a completed task, it is a continuous process of evaluations, and sometimes adjustments, to reach an intended objective.

The following academic and student groups have supported the institutional Strategic Plan by implementing a departmental action, assessing the results, and making changes to improve their action based on feedback or data.



### Open Lab Practice Sessions and Tutoring

The School of Health Studies provided tutoring sessions on each campus to help students improve their psychomotor skills with medical instruments – a vital skill to maintain accreditation. The School used summary tutoring data, student persistence, and test scores to assess the success of the initiative.

As a result of the success of the initiative, the tutoring schedule will continue to be made available to students at the beginning of each semester, and will now be delivered by the Center for Academic Success to allow for regular monitoring.

### Professional Development Resources

Academic Advisement wanted to increase professional development and hands-on training for all Academic Advisors. Through a Fall Kick-Off Day, the department offered an all-day professional development opportunity with webinars in Blackboard. Academic Advisement evaluated the success of the program through engagement surveys in Campus Labs.

Academic Impressions, a professional development resource, was renewed as a resource for all Academic Advisors and administrators. Academic Advisement Deans also attended the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) conference in October 2017.

### Illume Interventions and Lead Faculty

The School of Professional Studies developed an initiative to work with the Campus Retention Committees to evaluate Illume interventions. Illume is a Civitas program that uses data to develop personalized predictions for student success.

The School also assigned Lead Faculty to each campus, who work in collaboration with the Office of Student Development and Campus Life to develop programs that engage students in all the majors. Academic departments will share highlights of each area of study with students during New Student Orientations.



### Plan. Implement. Assess. Apply.

#### What is strategic planning? Why is it important?

[Click here](#) to watch a video about how strategic planning is the first step in a cycle of continuous improvement at Berkeley College.

### SEE YOU AT COMMENCEMENT 2018

Friday, May 11, 2018 • 9:00 AM  
Prudential Center • 25 Lafayette Street, Newark, NJ

Thank you for making this a special day for  
our graduates!

## Every Voice Matters Working Groups

As announced during All Associates Day, the One Berkeley: Every Voice Matters Committee has identified three areas of focus based on the results of the internal survey circulated in June 2017. Three Working Groups have been charged with digging deeper into the focus areas and developing recommendations that will be shared with senior management.

The three areas of focus include:

- Organizational Priorities
- Interdepartmental Collaboration
- Workplace Culture



### Interdepartmental Collaboration

Doris Alvarado, M.D. Health Sciences, School of Health Studies  
Karen Carpentieri, Vice President, Human Resources  
Angela Harrington, Vice President, Communications and External Relations  
Ayanna Shepard, Desktop Services Manager, New York, Information Systems  
LaToya Trowers-Bell, Ed.D., Chair, Health Services Administration, Larry L. Luig School of Business®

### Organizational Priorities

Anthony Amiano, Communications and Planning Specialist, Office of the President  
Denise McLaughlin, Special Assistant to the President  
Jennifer Porter, Senior Director, Institutional Effectiveness  
Nathalia Rogers, Ph.D., Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Liberal Arts  
Sophia Slater, Director, Student Accounts, Newark  
Beverly Wilson, Management, Larry L. Luig School of Business

### Workplace Culture

Earl Brown, Campus Operating Officer, Newark  
Patricia Greer, J.D., Legal Studies, School of Professional Studies  
Brian Maher, Vice President, Information Analytics  
Sharon McLennon-Wier, Ph.D., Director, Disability Services  
Jeffrey Preston, Administrator, Student Accounts, Woodbridge  
Katherine Wu, Personal Counselor and ADA Coordinator of Disability Services, Online

## CANVAS COMING FALL 2018

### New Learning Management System Offers User-Friendly Interface

In fall 2018, Berkeley College will complete its migration to Canvas, a new Learning Management System (LMS) that will replace the current Blackboard system. The adoption of Canvas will enhance the learning experience for both online and on-site students.

The College will also introduce Engage, a new portal for student services and campus information. The Engage portal, which was named by students themselves via a survey, will be optimized for mobile engagement to reach students where they spend time every day – on their cell phones.

For FAQs on the transition to Canvas, [click here](#). For more information, email [CanvasCurious@BerkeleyCollege.edu](mailto:CanvasCurious@BerkeleyCollege.edu).



### Need Help Getting Started?

Berkeley College offers webinar-based Canvas training for all faculty and staff. For help, contact the Canvas Faculty Support HelpDesk at ext. 6950.

[Getting Started with Training](#)

[Canvas Webinar-Based Training Space](#) – Create a subscription account with your Berkeley College email for full access.

[Canvas: First Look](#)

[Canvas: Course Basics](#)

[Canvas: The Student Experience](#)



Produced by the Office of Communications and External Relations  
[News@BerkeleyCollege.edu](mailto:News@BerkeleyCollege.edu)