May 7, 2015

To: The Bronx Community College Community

From: Trustee Valerie Beal Chair, Bronx Community College Presidential Search Committee

RE: Search Progress Report #3

I would like to thank the many members of Bronx Community College for your continuing interest in and support for the process currently underway to select the college’s next President.

The Bronx Community College Presidential Search Committee considered dozens of candidates and eventually narrowed the field to ten semi-finalists, who were interviewed by the committee. From this group of highly qualified candidates, the committee has selected three finalists who have been invited to visit the campus.

The Bronx Community College Presidential Search Committee is pleased to announce that the following finalists will visit the campus on three separate days:

**Monday, May 11, 2015**
Dr. Maureen Murphy
President, Brookdale Community College
Lincroft, New Jersey

**Tuesday, May 12, 2015**
Dr. Thomas Isekenegbe
President, Cumberland County College
Vineland, New Jersey

**Wednesday, May 13, 2015**
Dr. David L. Levinson
President, Norwalk Community College
Norwalk, Connecticut

Each finalist will meet with members of the faculty, department chairs, student representatives, vice presidents, deans, administrative staff members, alumni and community representatives. Finalists will also address a one-hour Town Hall Meeting/Open Forum, to which all members of the community are invited. Following introductory comments by the candidates, audience members will have an opportunity to ask questions.
Each of the campus groups selected to meet with the candidates will file a feedback advisory report. The Chancellor will include consideration of these reports in determining which candidate to recommend to the Board of Trustees.

Biographies of each of the candidates are attached. The full curriculum vitae are available as hyperlinks to this announcement and through Professor Howard Clampman, who is serving as the campus liaison. He will circulate on campus a schedule for all meetings, as well as the location for each day’s Open Forum.

We are very grateful to the CUNY trustees, the presidential representative and the Bronx faculty, students and alumni representatives who served on the search committee with exemplary diligence and devotion to the College.

I would like to thank the Bronx Community College community for your continued involvement and support.
Dr. Maureen Murphy was named president of Brookdale Community College in 2012. She began her career as an English faculty member at St. Louis Community College at Meramec, and thought she’d teach until retirement. An interim appointment as an academic dean at SLCC became a permanent appointment, thus beginning a career in administration.

Murphy came to Brookdale Community College from San Jacinto College South in Houston, Texas where she served as president. Previously she worked at Rappahannock Community College in Virginia, where she was a vice president of instruction and student development. She held a similar position at Wytheville Community College, also in Virginia.

Throughout her career, she has distinguished herself through developing educational partnerships, and championing educational innovation. While at Brookdale, she founded the Poseidon Early College High School, a partnership with the Neptune Townships School district and the first Early College High School in the state of New Jersey. Her deep experience includes overseeing accreditation, strategic planning, implementing master plans, developing grants, and most importantly, helping people develop to reach their fullest potential.

Murphy is committed to service. On the local level she serves on the Meridian Hospital Board and the Workforce Investment Board. On a national level, she is immediate past president of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges and a Commissioner on the American Association of Community College’s Commission on Communications and Marketing. Her most significant accomplishments involve disaster recovery from both Hurricane Ike in Texas and, more recently, Superstorm Sandy.

Murphy received a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Louisville, a Master of Arts in English from the University of Missouri – Columbia, and a Ph.D. in American Studies from Saint Louis University.

A lifelong learner, Murphy enjoys reading, fine and performing arts of all types, and travel.
Thomas Isekenegbe, Ph.D.
President
Cumberland County College

Dr. Thomas Isekenegbe is the sixth president of Cumberland County College where he has served in that position since being appointed in 2010.

Dr. Isekekegbe was born in Agenebode, Edo State, Nigeria where he graduated from The University of Nigeria with a B.SC (Honors) in Biology. He received three graduate degrees from Indiana State University, including a Master’s degree in Science Education, an Educational Specialist degree in Curriculum & Instruction, and a Doctorate degree in Curriculum & Instruction.

Dr. Isekenegbe has been involved with higher education for more than thirty years in both Nigeria and the United States. Along the way, he has held both teaching and administrative positions at the Institute of Continuing Education in Benin City, Nigeria, Hudson County Community College, Coastal University, Sussex County Community College, and Cumberland County College. He joined Cumberland in January 2002 as Vice President for Academic and Enrollment Services. He was selected to serve as the Interim President in July 1, 2009 and was appointed President of the college in March, 2010.

At Cumberland, Dr. Isekenegbe has led the College through Middle States reaffirmation of accreditation for ten years. He also led the development and implementation of a five-year strategic plan, with focus on student engagement and completion, workforce and economic development, and leadership and service learning. Under his leadership, Cumberland County College was ranked 29th by Washington Monthly Magazine in its 2013 annual ranking of Community and two year colleges in the United States.

Dr. Isekenegbe is a member of many professional organizations, at the state and national levels, including the New Jersey President’s Council where he serves as the co-chair of the Transfer Committee. He is also a member of the NJ Council of County Colleges and serves on the Council’s Executive Committee and Workforce Consortium. He is also the chair of the Council’s Academic Affairs Committee. Dr. Isekenegbe serves on the Equity & Diversity Commission of the American Association of Community Colleges. He also serves on the Presidential Advisory Council of the American Association of Community College Trustees.

Dr. Isekenegbe is active in many social and philanthropic organizations including the Vineland Rotary. He is a member of the Board of the United Way of Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, Board Member of Inspira Health Network in Vineland, NJ and he is also a member of the Board of St. Augustine Prep school. Internationally, he is a member and President of ISADUS Inc. and USAGBE club of Nigeria.

Dr. Isekenegbe has received numerous awards and honors, including the 2011 Distinguished Educator by the New Jersey NAACP, 2012 United Way of Cumberland County Volunteer of the Year, 2014 Mental Health Distinguished Community Leader Award by the Guidance Center (Mental Health Services for Southern NJ) and a 2014 induction into the Cumberland County Black Hall of Fame.

Dr. Isekenegbe resides with his wife, Patience and children in Vineland, NJ.
Dr. David L. Levinson has been president of Norwalk Community College (NCC) in Norwalk, Connecticut since August 2004. During his presidency, NCC completed a successful capital campaign for a new Science, Health and Wellness Center, became an Achievement Dream Leader College, received a $12.1 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCT) Health and Life Sciences Career Initiative grant, and was selected by MDC, Inc. as one of fifteen community colleges nationwide to receive funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for a developmental education project. NCC was awarded the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s Community Engagement Classification on the basis of the College’s extensive service to Fairfield County. Jobs for the Future and Achieving the Dream selected NCC and the Connecticut Board of Regents as one of three national sites for a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Regional Collaborative that is funded by the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. With the 2011 restructuring of higher education in the state of Connecticut, Dr. Levinson was appointed Vice President for Community Colleges, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities in addition to his presidency.


Dr. Levinson co-chairs the American Sociological Association’s Task Force on Community College Faculty. He also serves as an elected commissioner on the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. (NEASC) Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. Previously he was elected to the Society for the Study of Social Problem’s Budget, Finance and Audit Committee, which he chaired from 2011-2012, appointed to the American Sociological Association’s Public Sociology Award Committee, and served on the American Council of Education’s Commission on Lifelong Learning.

Dr. Levinson was honored by Phi Theta Kappa with the Shirley Gordon Award of Distinction in 2013. He also received the Strengthening Families Award from the Family and Children’s Agency in 2008, Distinguished Leader Award from the Voluntary Action Center of Mid-Fairfield County in 2009, Stepping Up for Children Award from Stepping Stones Museum for Children in 2012, and the Elizabeth Roberts Award for Excellence in Furthering the United Way’s Work in Education from the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County in 2014.

The recipient of a Distinguished Teaching Award from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Dr. Levinson has also taught at: Bergen Community College; Merrimack College; Norwalk Community College; Teachers College, Columbia University; and Tufts University.

Dr. Levinson holds a B.A. in Sociology from the State University of New York at New Paltz, and a M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.