A Message from the Chair

I write today to share with you exciting news about the Department of Secondary Education and Youth Services. I am gratified to continue to be connected to thousands of our alumni. Staying connected with you is vital to us. In our SEYS Department, it is heartening to learn that our alumni are dedicated to the joys of teaching in school settings and diverse communities. We are committed to training teacher candidates to be agents of transformation in learning in our pluralistic society and urban communities. Your very kind donations during the past few semesters have made an immediate difference in the education of SEYS teacher candidates. We have used your generous support to provide scholarships to our most talented teacher candidates in need of financial assistance. Your continued generosity will help us provide more scholarships to assist in paying for required New York State teaching certification exams, tuition, books, and school supplies. Thank you for supporting the mission of the SEYS Department. The success of our teacher candidates is a crucial way in which we measure our success. We hope that you stay connected with us. Celebrate with us during Commencement ceremonies on May 30, 2019, attend our multiple events, enroll in post-graduate programs (of which we have many), check for news about us on our website, and send us emails with news about your successes, special trainings, and family, and tell us how we can continue helping your professional development. Please contact me at 718-997-5153 or by email at seys@qc.cuny.edu if you have any questions or comments.

Make a Donation

To make a donation, please send a check (designated to the Department of Secondary Education & Youth Services) to

Queens College Foundation
Kiely Hall, 9th Floor
65-30 Kissena Blvd.
Queens, NY 11367-1597

OR call 718-997-3920

OR visit our website at qccommunity.qc.cuny.edu/dept
Alumni News

It has been a busy and productive time for our alumni. For instance, 15 SEYS alumni met with our current teacher candidates on campus and shared their experiences for a successful teaching career. Alumni from the Math TIME 2000 program also visited our campus to inspire our current Math TIME 2000 students. Ariela Rothstein presented her research in social studies at the National Council for the Social Studies graduate student session. After they visited schools and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology in Cape Town, South Africa, Ashley Zinnel, Melissa Ortiz, Rachel Corsini, and David Gerwin with Dominique Fagan (a doctoral student from South Africa) conducted a workshop on campus as part of Limarys Caraballo’s Complicated Conversations Series.

Sahar Soleimany delivered an exemplary presentation titled Debunking “Single Stories” in Education: Participatory Methods with Youth and Communities, during the Complicated Conversations Series. We are proud of the accomplishments of our alumni who work diligently teaching in urban schools where they provide instruction and educational services to learners of all backgrounds.

Faculty News

We are thrilled to share with you that David Gerwin, Magnus Bassey, and Jacqueline Darvin have been promoted to the Full Professor rank. Theresa Gurl, Limarys Caraballo, and Leslee Grey have been promoted with tenure to the Associate Professor rank. Congratulations to them! We also continue to bring in outstanding faculty, having recently hired Salvatore G. Garofalo, Susan L. McCullough, and Mitchell H. Wood. After many years dedicated to teaching SEYS teacher candidates, Dr. Jack Zevin has retired. Special thanks go to him for his many years of hard work and service to the SEYS Department. We wish him the best, and congratulations!

Alice Artzt had her TIME 2000 Annual Conference at Queens College attended by 400 middle and high school students who may pursue education careers. Limarys Caraballo conducted several Complicated Conversations meetings during the last few months in which youth researchers discussed interesting topics and engaged in a performance that they acted out, and Dr. Jacqueline Darvin moderated another one on critical literacy. Arthur Costigan has a new book, An Authentic English Language Arts Curriculum: Finding Your Way in a Standards-Driven Context. Jennifer Eddy has significantly contributed to the revision of standard of the world languages disciplines. Magnus Bassey and David Gerwin delivered distinguished lecturer presentations as part of the celebration of their promotions. Limarys Caraballo also gave the keynote address at the American Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies.

Héfer Bembenutty was invited to Japan where he presented his research on self-regulation and self-efficacy. Stephen Farenga and Leslee Grey presented their research at the National Science Foundation and the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Stephen Farenga, Daniel Ness, and Salvatore Garofalo received an AERA award for their book Spatial Intelligence: Why It Matters from Birth through the Lifespan. In a collaboration between the science departments and science education programs,
Stephen Farenga also held the Science Reimagined Conference on campus. Bradley Bergey presented his research at national and educational conferences and received a grant to study the career decisions of male preservice teachers of color.

We have expanded our programs. Jennifer Eddy, Alice Artzt, and Susan McCullough obtained scholarship funds for students to enroll in our new accelerated master’s programs. The New York State Department of Education approved a new Math–Bilingual Program.

Teacher Candidates: How Can You Help Them Now?

At the SEYS Department, we are expanding our numerous services and programs to fulfill the needs of our teacher candidates. We have much to celebrate. Our alumni are teaching and serving in diverse communities, and our teacher candidates obtain New York State certifications and get jobs. Our faculty members continue to conduct solid research, expand their teaching approaches, and take leadership roles in their respective disciplines. Our efforts depend significantly on generous gifts from alumni like you.

Now is the time to give back and support the department that meant so much to you. Your donation will provide a vital resource for the department’s continued growth. With support from you, the friends of our SEYS Department, we can provide vouchers to our students to help pay for the New York State Department of Education requirements—from the Educating All Students Test [EAS], Content Specialty Test [CST], and Education Teacher Performance Assessment [edTPA]), to seminars in child abuse, school violence, and school safety.

We want to offer scholarships to top students who experience financial need while doing student teaching. With support from you, we can provide scholarships to assist them with their educational research projects and travel to professional conferences. We want to establish a technology-friendly department library where students can have access to free books. We want to assist junior faculty in attending professional conferences where they can present their research and new teaching approaches, and underwrite public programs, lectures, and colloquia in which our faculty and students can participate.

If you would like to donate, please use our online form at https://qccommunity.qc.cuny.edu/dept, or you may mail your contribution to the Queens College Foundation, Kiely Hall, 9th Floor, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Queens, NY 11367-1597.

Rest assured that your gift will be put to excellent use. Your contributions will help us realize our vision. Thank you for supporting the cause and vision of the SEYS Department!
Putting Your Gift to Work

$1,000 PER STUDENT
Support teacher candidates doing student teaching. Funding can be used to provide scholarships to top students experiencing financial need while they are full-time students.

$2,500/$250 PER STUDENT
Support presentations and colloquia. Funding can be used to provide opportunities for the professional development of faculty and to cover guest speaker fees.

$5,000/$500 PER STUDENT
Support teacher candidates’ educational research projects. Funding can be used to cover travel costs for teacher candidates to present their research projects at professional conferences.

$5,000
Support for physical space or technical improvements. Funding can be used to create a technology-friendly environment where students can gather for educational and social activities and exchange ideas and teaching experiences.

$10,000/$500 PER STUDENT
Defray the costs of teacher candidates’ New York State fees. Funding can be used to provide vouchers to our students to help pay for required New York State Department of Education tests and seminars.