WINTER/SPRING ENROLLMENT

Good afternoon. I would like to welcome everyone back for the spring semester.

Professor Stephen Stearns

Let me begin by expressing my sympathy on the passing of our dear colleague, Professor Stephen Stearns. He was a great colleague, provided exceptional service to the College and was a dear friend of all students. He will be greatly missed.
Please join us at our memorial for Professor Stearns which will be held on Sunday, March 20th in the Library beginning at 11 am.

While the recent intersession may be perceived by some as a time of relative idleness on campus, in fact, CSI’s student enrollment thrived during our winter session reflecting a 16% increase in FTE over last year, and an 11% increase in headcount. CSI students accounted for 81% of the winter session enrollment. I want to thank the faculty who agreed to teach during the winter session.

Additionally, the College’s spring enrollment is expected to show a 1% increase in headcount and
FTE which is consistent with our enrollment projections for this semester. It should be noted that, based upon these projections, CSI is one of only three senior colleges in CUNY showing an increase in spring enrollment.

Finally, our spring graduate student enrollment also shows a strong growth of 11.3%.

**BUDGET**

CSI is achieving this continued, record enrollment growth in the midst of significant, fiscal challenges. The 2011-2012 State Executive Budget includes a proposed $83.2 million and 11.9 million deficit which will be rolled over for a total
University-wide reduction to our senior colleges of a little over $95 million. This is in addition to the $205 million in reductions that have already been absorbed by CUNY over the past three fiscal years. *I need to reiterate, however, that no full time faculty or staff member will lose their positions from the impact of the proposed budget. There will be no retrenchment.*

In addition to the direct impact upon our senior colleges, the State Executive Budget recommends a reduction in community-college base aid of $17.5 million in state support. This funding loss is in addition to the approximately $20 million in base aid
reduction included in the 2010-2011 State enacted budget for a total loss of $37.5 million.

Moreover, $2 million in New York State Education funding for the CUNY LEADS (Linking Employment, Academics, and Disability Services) program has been eliminated, and there has been a $.7 million decrease in Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funding for CUNY’s Child Care Centers.

CSI is taking an active role in responding to the proposed budget. On January 21st, the College hosted a Legislative Forum in which we engaged in a comprehensive discussion over our budget concerns
and needs with our local and State legislators. And just this week, representatives from CSI traveled to Albany to meet with members of the New York State Senate and Assembly as part of a CUNY-wide lobbying effort to reduce the proposed reductions of the State Executive Budget. I will be in Albany this coming Saturday to participate in lobbying activities and will be on a legislative panel discussing the impact of the proposed budget on CUNY.

And as I reported to you previously, to ensure the effective stewardship of our resources during these difficult economic times, I have established a Resource and Budget Advisory Committee. This
Committee, co-chaired by Vice-President Michael Kress and Professor Fred Naider, is comprised of various members of the College-wide Budget Committee, the P&B Budget Subcommittee, the College Council Budget Committee, and other campus constituents. Since my last report, the Resource and Budget Advisory Committee has met to discuss the budget situation, has reviewed budget reports and has started to develop an approach to its charge in developing recommendations for a budget reduction plan.

As I previously indicated, I am confident that together we will not only persevere, but that we will
also continue to advance our core mission of teaching, learning and scholarship.

FACULTY/STAFF PROMOTIONS

Our continuing commitment to academic excellence is reflected in the recent promotions of 7 faculty from the rank of Associate Professor to Full Professor, 14 faculty from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, and the promotion of 5 CLTs to Senior CLTs.

In addition to these promotions, I am pleased to announce that the CUNY Board of Trustees has also approved the appointment of Professor Sarah
Schulman as Distinguished Professor, I want to congratulate Professor Schulman for this special recognition and express my heartfelt congratulations to all faculty and staff on their extraordinary achievements.

THE CUNY CAMPAIGN FOR CHARITABLE GIVING

I am pleased to report that the CUNY Campaign for Charitable Giving is in full swing at CSI. The Campaign provides valuable assistance to the elderly, homeless, neglected and abused children, teens at risk of dropping out of school, and other individuals in need in the community. Additionally, donors can
give directly to CSI, through the CSI Foundation, for student scholarships and support.

To date, CSI has raised over $12,686 which surpasses last year’s total and is nearing our goal of $15,000. For those who have not yet participated, I would ask you to please consider joining your colleagues in support of CSI and the CUNY Campaign.

I want to thank all of our Building Captains and Academic Deans who have helped spearhead our efforts.

**Scholarships from the Consulate General of Mexico**
The college received a grant of $20,000 from the Consulate General of Mexico to award scholarships to 8 students. I want to thank the SEEK and Admission staff for obtaining this grant and congratulate the student recipients.

**PETRIE STUDENT EMERGENCY GRANT FUND**

I am pleased to announce the College’s recent receipt of a major grant of up to $300,000 from the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation to support the Petrie Student Emergency Grant Fund. This fund was created for the purpose of providing quick response grants to matriculated CSI students with
short-term financial emergencies to enable them to remain in school, rather than being forced to take a leave of absence or drop out.

Students who demonstrate need and are facing a current, unexpected emergency such as temporary job loss, uninsured medical bills, and theft of books or other essential academic belongings, may apply for this grant. The maximum cash award amount is $1,500.

The newly formed Emergency Assistance Committee of the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Financial Aid, and other student services offices will review applications and make
recommendations. I would ask everyone to advise students of this vital resource and to direct them to our webpage to access the grant application, grant guidelines and other relevant information.

**ASSISTANT VICE-PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

In these challenging fiscal times, Institutional Advancement assumes an even more critical role as financial resources diminish. I am, therefore, pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Kenneth Boyden as the Assistant Vice President of Institutional Advancement and External Affairs. Dr. Boyden
comes to us following a nationwide search and extensive campus participation in the search process.

Dr. Boyden holds a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Management from the University of Pennsylvania and a Juris Doctor from The Dickenson School of Law of Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Boyden previously served as Vice-President for Institutional Advancement at Cabrini College and at Valley Forge Military Academy and College. He was Director of the Capital Campaign and Major Gifts at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, where he was later promoted to Vice-
President. Dr. Boyden has a history of securing unprecedented support for his previous institutions, has expertise in the launch and management of highly successful capital campaigns, and has proven strategies for increasing philanthropic participation with alumni.

*I would ask that Dr. Boyden stand and be recognized.*

I commend the work of the search committee chaired by Professor David Bloomfield, Chair of the Education Department. The committee’s diligence produced an outstanding pool of candidates, and its
hard work ensured a successful outcome of this important search.

**TOBACCO PROHIBITION POLICY**

I am also pleased to advise you that the CUNY Board of Trustees recently approved an expanded tobacco policy that will make CUNY the largest smoke-free public university system in the United States. The revised policy, which must be implemented University-wide no later than September 4, 2012, prohibits the use of tobacco on all grounds and facilities under CUNY’s jurisdiction—indoor and outdoor—as well as tobacco industry promotions and marketing on campus properties, and
tobacco industry sponsorship of athletic events and athletes.

Reaffirming CSI’s status as a leader in health and wellness in the community, and in accordance with CUNY’s revised tobacco policy, I have formed a Tobacco-Free Environment Task Force to research best practices and make recommendations about our transition plan to a healthier, tobacco-free campus. Professor Richard Gid Powers, Department of History, and Linda Conte, Director of Health and Wellness Services, are co-chairs of the Task Force, which consists of faculty, staff, and students, including the Student Government president. The
group has met weekly since January, and will be submitting a transition plan in early March. The plan, entitled “Change is in the air,” will include targeted visibility campaigns utilizing print and web that promote educational and motivational cessation programs and resources available to students through the Wellness Program, as well as faculty and staff through Human Resources.

**IT SECURITY SUMMIT**

In response to recent, serious violations of security policies and procedures in other campuses that resulted in the release of non-public University information belonging to students and employees,
CUNY will be convening an IT Security Summit on May 3rd. I have designated Vice-President Michael Kress as CSI’s representative at the Summit, and we will also be forming a working group composed of faculty and senior administrative staff to attend the Summit as well.

I will keep you advised of any developments concerning this important security issue.

**MIDDLE STATES**

As we commence the spring semester, I am pleased to report that two of the College’s major institution-wide initiatives, the Middle States
Reaccreditation and Strategic Planning Processes are progressing according to schedule.

Our Steering Committee and Working Groups met during the January intersession to produce initial drafts of their Working Group reports that were due on January 28. First revisions are to be discussed tomorrow as we approach our final deadline for Working Group reports on March 4. During March and April, the process of integrating the seven reports into one cohesive Self-Study Draft will commence. Further revisions will be made over the summer.

As for the Strategic Planning Process, I will be providing a full update of our progress concerning
this major initiative later in the meeting when I present the report of the Institutional Planning Committee.

**CONCLUSION**

In closing, I would like to remind everyone that the annual Dolphin Award nomination process is now underway. This prestigious honor, which started in 1980, provides an opportunity for the campus community to collectively recognize the many wonderful accomplishments and contributions of its members. At the suggestion of the selection committee, I am pleased to announce that a tenth category recognizing the contributions of part-time
employees has been added this year. Nominations are due on March 8\textsuperscript{th} so please review the nomination invitation posted on the College website, and I look forward to the post-Commencement celebration when we formally acknowledge the 2011 honorees.

And finally, I remind everyone that February marks the celebration of Black History Month at CSI. A culminating event has been scheduled for February 24\textsuperscript{th} in the Williamson Theatre from 1:45-3:00 pm. I hope you will be able to join me in attending the event.

Thank you.