

LBSCI 730: Archival Appraisal, Arrangement, and Access

Session three

Thursday, September 12

**Section one (5-10 min):**

Where does Queens College exist in the landscape of cultural heritage/collecting institutions? What collecting institutions exist in Queens? In NYC? In New York?

## **Section two (10-15 min):**

Read the foundational/guiding documents of the following stakeholders in QC SCA. Evaluate the values each represents, the constituencies served, and list them.

### **CUNY:**

#### Mission

The City University of New York is the nation's largest urban public university, a transformative engine of social mobility that is a critical component of the lifeblood of New York City. Founded in 1847 as the nation's first free public institution of higher education, CUNY today has 25 colleges spread across New York City's five boroughs, serving 243,000 degree-seeking students of all ages and awarding 55,000 degrees each year. More than 80 percent of the University's graduates stay in New York, contributing to all aspects of the city's economic, civic and cultural life and diversifying the city's workforce in every sector. The University's historic mission continues to this day: provide a public first-rate education to all students, regardless of means or background.

The mission of The City University of New York is embodied in state education law, Article 125, Section 6201, as the finding and intent of the New York State Legislature.

#### Law

1. The legislature finds that in order to meet the state's responsibility to provide post-secondary education in New York city beyond the associate degree level, as it does elsewhere in the state, there should be full state funding of senior college operating and debt service. The governance of the university must reflect increased state responsibility but should preserve the city's participation in the governance of the university it created and developed at city expense.
2. The legislature intends that the city university of New York should be maintained as an independent system of higher education governed by its own board of trustees responsible for the governance, maintenance and development of both senior and community college units of the city university. The university must remain responsive to the needs of its urban setting and maintain its close articulation between senior and community college units. Where possible, governance and operation of senior and community colleges should be jointly conducted or conducted by similar procedures to maintain the university as an integrated system and to facilitate articulation between units.
3. The legislature's intent is that the city university be supported as an independent and integrated system of higher education on the assumption that the university will continue to maintain and expand its commitment to academic excellence and to the provision of equal access and opportunity for students, faculty and staff from all ethnic and racial groups and from both sexes.
4. The city university is of vital importance as a vehicle for the upward mobility of the disadvantaged in the city of New York. The pioneering efforts of the SEEK and College Discovery programs must not be diminished as a result of greater state financial responsibility for the operation of the city and state of New York.

5. Only the strongest commitment to the special needs of an urban constituency justifies the legislature's support of an independent and unique structure for the university. Activities at the city university campuses must be undertaken in a spirit which recognizes and responds to the imperative need for affirmative action and the positive desire to have city university personnel reflect the diverse communities which comprise the people of the city and state of New York. In its urban environment this commitment should be evident in all the guidelines established by the board of trustees for the university's operation, from admissions and hiring to contracting for the provision of goods, services, new construction and facilities rehabilitation.

### **Queens College:**

#### Mission

The mission of Queens College is to prepare students to serve as innovative leaders in a diverse world that they make more equitable and inclusive.

We do this by recognizing every student's potential and facilitating opportunities to achieve it. We guide students to determine their desired paths forward that are in service to the ways they define their community or communities.

We prepare undergraduate and graduate students through rigorous academics and provide support so that students are able to complete their courses of study and find the right path after graduation. We take an aspirational yet practical approach to liberal arts and professional education: engaging students in learning, knowledge creation, and cocurricular activities that broaden their minds while giving them tangible skills to succeed in careers and life.

### **Benjamin Rosenthal Library:**

#### Mission

Queens College Library facilitates creativity and intellectual inquiry in support of research, study, teaching, and the pursuit of knowledge.

#### Vision

The Library will be a user-centric hub for information, learning and creativity that engages the campus and the broader community.

#### Strategic Plan

GOAL ONE: Cultivate innovative pedagogy that fosters student success.

GOAL TWO: Provide relevant and accessible spaces, collections, and programming to facilitate active engagement with scholarship.

GOAL THREE: Collaborate, partner, and communicate effectively within and beyond the library.

GOAL FOUR: Develop a culture of ongoing purposeful library assessment and data-driven decision making.

## **Queens College Special Collections and Archives (5 min):**

### Mission and Vision Statement

Our mission is to collect, preserve, and provide access to special collections and archives for discovery, teaching, scholarship, creativity and critical thinking. Our priority is the safekeeping of the historical and cultural record of Queens College. Additional collecting areas – civil rights, social justice, politics, and music and the arts – reflect areas of excellence in our institution and among our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Our vision is to facilitate moments of discovery and connection with primary sources; provide experiential learning opportunities for future archivists; and collaboratively engage campus and community partners in the archival process.

We approach this work with a spirit of transparency, care, curiosity, inclusion, mindfulness, and respect.

**Section three (20-25 min):**

Make the case for AND against accessioning one of these collections into QC's Archives:

1. Fran Drescher papers
2. PSC CUNY Queens College chapter records
3. Flushing Burial Ground collection
4. Joan Nestle papers