



A *Thanks* Giving Message from
President Claudia V. Schrader

I drove into work this morning battling traffic and stuck in a sea of cars on the Brooklyn Queens Expressway and the Belt Parkway. I was of course prepared for this. Everyone knows that the day before Thanksgiving Day is National Gridlock Day in New York City. We celebrate it as the day when many New Yorkers leave the city for greener pastures filled with family, food, fun and football.

In the days leading up to National Gridlock Day, I often ask, and I am often asked: “where are you going for Thanksgiving”? My answer has been the same all my life: “nowhere”. You see, I was raised with the understanding and belief that Thanksgiving— giving thanks—is every day. My mother taught me that I should endeavor to be kind, giving and thankful always. And that I am.

Each day, I wake up thankful for the ability to serve Kingsborough as President and to be a part of a community where dreams not only begin, but where they come to life. I am thankful for the faculty and staff that help to make our students’ dreams come true and for our students who call Kingsborough their academic home.

When I reflect on all that I have to be thankful for, I can’t help but to think about those in our community and elsewhere who truly have “nowhere” to go; those who are estranged from their families; and those who are experiencing food insecurity, homelessness, poverty, and health challenges. I ask that you keep them in your thoughts and if possible extend a hand. Most importantly, in this season of thanks, I ask that we all be more kind, giving and thankful always.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Day!

