

**STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CUNY
MONTHLY REPORT**

1. Senate Matters: Composition and Membership

As of this writing, the elections of 41 Senators from the full-time faculty of Queensborough Community College; one CLT representative, two HEO representatives, and one adjunct representative, have been finalized. The Steering Committee wishes to renew its thanks all the members of Queensborough's faculty and staff who ran for election, as well as the number of faculty, HEOs, and Adjuncts who voted for their colleagues.

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all representatives—Faculty-at-large, HEOs, and CLTs,—who may be new—or are returning, to the Academic Senate:

Professor Shele Bannon (Business)
Dr. Joanne Chang (Music)
Dr. Edmund Clingan (History)
Dr. Maan Lin (Foreign Languages)
Professor Isabella Lizzul (Health, Physical Education, and Dance)
Dr. Jennifer Maloy (Basic Educational Skills)
Ms. Audrey Maroney (Senior Laboratory Technical Representative)
Mr. Dion Pincus (Higher Education Officer Representative)
Professor Margaret Reilly (Nursing)
Professor Kathleen Rowe (Adjunct Faculty Representative, Basic Educational Skills)
Dr. Philip Pecorino (Social Sciences)
Professor Cheryl Spencer (Nursing)
Dr. Mangala Tawde (Biological Science and Geology)
Dr. Edward Volchok (Business)
Dr. Paul Weiss (Health, Physical Education, and Dance)
Professor Richard Yuster (Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology)

We also wish to express our profound gratitude to the following faculty, HEOs, and CLTs, who will be leaving the Academic Senate:

Professor Georganne Albanese, (Adjunct Faculty Representative, Basic Skills)
Dr. Barbara Blake-Campbell (Nursing)
Dr. Anne Marie Bourbon (Foreign Languages)
Professor Michael Cesarano (Speech and Theatre)
Mr. Pedro Irigoyen, (Computer Laboratory Technician Representative, Chemistry)

Dr. Chong Jue (Biology)

Ms. Josephine Pantaleo (Higher Education Officer Representative)

Professor Regina Polizzotto Cardaci (Nursing)

Dr. Jane Poulsen (Social Sciences)

Dr. Patrick Wallach (Mathematics and Computer Science)

The contribution all these senators have made and are making to shared governance at Queensborough Community College is greatly appreciated.

- The Steering Committee wishes to recognize the grace, wisdom and diligence of the outgoing Chair of the Committee on Committees, Professor Galatia Iakovou. She and the Committee on Committees have done difficult work this year, and the Steering Committee is extremely grateful. We also wish to thank our Senate Technology Officer and Special Elections Officer, Dr. Belle Birchfield, for her outstanding work to clarify and standardize the Academic Senate and FEC elections process. We also wish to thank Mr. Raj Vaswani for lending his time and expertise to this clarification project.
- The Steering Committee would also like to formally thank the outgoing president of the Student Association, Mr. Oluwadamisi Atanda, and his wonderful administration and fellow officers, for their tireless support of shared governance, and their participation on many of the committees of the Academic Senate, including our newly constituted Budget Advisory Committee. When President-Elect Preston Baker and his administrative team take office on July 1, the Steering Committee will request a list of student appointees to the various committees of the Academic Senate as per the bylaws of our shared governance body. The Steering Committee wishes to thank all those student representatives who served on committees this year, and to indicate how grateful we are to all our student leaders who give their time and effort to the process of shared governance. We look forward to working with all our new student representatives!

2. Committee Matters: Composition and Membership

The Steering Committee of the Academic Senate wishes to thank the members of this body, who approved the full slate of committee members prepared by the diligent and tireless members of our Committee on Committees. We are exceedingly grateful to all our colleagues who indicated a willingness to serve on committees of the Academic Senate, and wish to take this opportunity to collectively thank all those members who have agreed to accept a committee appointment for next year. We also wish to indicate that, due to some turnover we are already seeing among appointed committee members, several members of faculty on the alternate list have already been offered committee appointments to replace resigning committee members—so those faculty who were not appointed to committees and had concerns on this score should be aware that they may yet be given an opportunity to serve.

At the May meeting of the Academic Senate, members of the Senate will be also asked to consider nominees for the various members of the Steering Committee, and three members of the Committee on Committees.

2. Committee Matters: Activities

- The new Queensborough website format, and the transfer of archived governance materials to the website, has created a few interesting challenges for record-keeping in the Academic Senate—a matter of considerable importance given our legal requirement to maintain a transparent record of our transactions as a public gathering according to the Open Meetings Law. While last month, we reported that most of the minutes and agenda had been brought up to date, and that an update of the Committee on Committee guide, was nearly complete, we are encountering a few difficulties with missing annual reports, and discrepancies between committee web pages and committee charges as enumerated in the bylaws of the Academic Senate. This issue was addressed at considerable length in the meeting the Steering Committee had with chairs of committees of the Academic Senate on the 18 April. As of this writing, the Steering Committee is exploring several strategies we may adopt to avoid future problems, and will advise the Academic Senate of our progress. Once again, the Steering Committee wishes to express its sincere thanks to our Senate Technology Officer and Special Elections Officer, Dr. Belle Birchfield, who is continuing to provide critical clarification of election procedures, as well as the programming of our Academic Senate clickers; to David Moretti, who has been unstintingly generous with his time as members of the Steering Committee and Committee chairs endeavor to master the new website loading protocols, and to Dr. Lana Zinger, Secretary of the Academic Senate, whose support to the process of updating the governance website has been critical to any progress we have made.
- As of this writing, the Steering Committee has charged the Committee on Bylaws, and the Committee on WID/WAC with a review of discrepancies between current and past website documentation. We wish to thank the members of the Bylaws Committee, especially the Committee chair, Professor Linda Meltzer, Esq., for their diligence and energy in this matter, and to extend a special thanks to our parliamentarian, Dr. Shannon Kincaid, for his efforts to clarify these issues. We also wish to renew our thanks to Mr. Moretti for working with us on various difficulties we've had with the archiving of the Bylaws of the Academic Senate.
- In response to continuing concerns from members of our Queensborough Community, the Steering Committee of the Academic Senate is delighted to indicate that this agenda will include a report from the Committee on Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Matters concerning the current status of the Tobacco Implementation Plan. Of particular interest is the consideration of how compliance will be enforced, and whether non-compliance, particularly among students, will carry disciplinary sanctions. The Steering Committee would like to take this opportunity to express sincere thanks to Mr. Dion Pincus, whose leadership and work on behalf of this committee has been critical and extraordinary.

- As per the action of the Committee on Bylaws, and the initiation of a new annual Budget consultation process, the Steering Committee will be requesting a meeting between Queensborough's newly constituted Budget Advisory Committee and Vice-President Newcomb to begin the annual budget consultation process. The Steering Committee would like to thank the members of the Committee of Chairs, the Faculty Executive Committee, and the Student Government Association for their nomination of members to serve on this important committee.
- The Steering Committee continues to be in awe of the tireless, exceptional efforts of our members of the Committee on Curriculum in addressing the Pathways Project. We wish to take this opportunity to extend equal thanks and recognition to Queensborough's representatives on the various Pathways subcommittees, several of whom were kind enough to share their insights into the course approval process as a result of their attendance at meetings on Friday, April 27, 2012. The Steering Committee is, meanwhile, anxious to insure that the philosophy of Queensborough's Curriculum committee's, to honor the judgments of academic departments concerning course design and academic rigor be supported. It is for this reason that the Steering Committee called for a meeting of the Special Committee on General Education Outcomes to plan a time to review the Pathways Outcomes from the perspective of Queensborough's Mission Statement (at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/about/mission.html>). This Committee will report to the Academic Senate either in May or in September, 2012.

3. University and College Wide Matters with Direct Bearing on the Senate

- Among items mentioned at the last Plenary of the University Faculty Senate that may be of interest (see attachment D), is the CUNY Diversity Action Plan, available at:
<http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/ohrm/diversity/DiversityActionPlan/DiversityActionPlan.pdf>