

**STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CUNY
MONTHLY REPORT
April 8, 2014**

1. Senate Matters: Composition and Membership

All positions in the Academic Senate are filled. Elections have now concluded for 14 faculty at large positions for 2014-2017, commencing with the next meeting of the Senate. We want to thank all those who participated in this election of faculty at large members of the Academic Senate for 2014-2017. We thank all of those who cast their ballots. We are happy to see so large a turn out and think it a sign of health for us as faculty and a good sign for shared governance. Of the 354 faculty eligible to vote, 249 (70.34%) voted in this election. We thank particularly all those 28 faculty members who stood for election. We thank all members of the Committee on Committees for facilitating this election.

We thank Senators who will be leaving us for their past service:

Eugene Harris
Devin McKay

We thank other Senators who have served and will now have the position of alternates should openings develop:

Jose Osorio
Andrea Salis
Eileen White
Reuvain Zahavy

We congratulate those who have been reelected:

Bertorelli, Joseph
Birchfield, Belle
Colalillo, Georgina
Fletcher-Anthony, Wilma
Ford, Kelly
Kolios, Anthony
Nguyen, Andrew
Schwartz, Jeffrey

We congratulate those six faculty who are not now senators and have been elected and look forward to their service on the Academic Senate starting next month:

Jean Amaral
Barbara Blake-Campbell
Joan Dupre
Simran Kaur
Amy Traver
Jannette Urciuoli

The Committee on Committees has noted in this month’s report that there are but two departments without faculty members elected to serve in the Senate: Art and Design and Chemistry. We think that is fairly good given that there are only 41 seats democratically filled and so many departments, but this might improve in the future.

2. Committee Matters: Composition and Membership

Next month there will be an election for three members of the Committee on Committees to three year terms. Senators are requested to consider nominees and forward them to the Committee on Committees. They must not be in departments that will already be represented on the Committee on Committees by the continuing members. They need not be members of the Senate to serve.

Name	Rank	Dept	Role	Term Ends
Harris, Eugene	Associate Professor	Biology	--	2014
Volchok, Edward	Associate Professor	Business	Chair	2014
Yuster, Richard	Professor	Engineering Technology	--	2014
Bialo-Padin, Aithne	Lecturer	History	--	2015
Carroll, Julia	Associate Professor	Academic Literacy	--	2015
Spencer, Cheryl	Associate Professor	Nursing	Secretary	2015
Boccio, Dona	Professor	Mathematics	--	2016
Jankowski, Jeffrey	Associate Professor	Social Sciences	--	2016
Sarno, David	Associate Professor	Chemistry	--	2016

3. Committee Matters:

A. Structures

The Committee on Committees and the Steering Committee have now completed the first phase of a proposal to restructure the Standing Committees of the Academic Senate to relate the committees to the new MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION Standards for Excellence. (More to come in 2014-2015 year.) At this meeting of the Academic Senate there will be an election of new members of the committees following the revised size of the committees and terms of service as approved at the February meeting of the Academic Senate.

Objectives include:

- To facilitate the operation of a comprehensive institutional approach to assessment via shared governance and institutional structures
- To accommodate the Middle States Association Review Process with least disruption.
- To provide more opportunities for faculty service to the College by increasing the size of committees
- Providing Staggered terms to insure continuity (faculty members are in multiples of three with 3 year terms)
- Each year most of the committees would involve itself in the annual assessment of those areas under its purview. They would make recommendations as to what they think would improve the assessment process.

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

A. The University Faculty Senate

The University Faculty Senate of The City University of New York last met on February 18, 2014. There were no actions taken.

B. **The CUNY BOT** last met on February 24, 2014 and took several actions. Videos are available here:

<http://www.cuny.edu/about/trustees/meetings/broadcasts/archive.html>

The next meeting is May 5, 2014

5. Actions of the Steering Committee

There were none to report.

6. Shared Governance Discussions and the Academic Senate

In our readiness to entertain discussion of all other college-related matters, we wish to remind all members of Queensborough's faculty that all meetings of the Academic Senate are open to the public as per the 2006 Perez decision on Open Meetings Law, as noted in Article I, Section 3, b of the Bylaws of the Academic Senate:

Meetings of the Academic Senate shall be subject to the Open Meetings Law and the Freedom of Information Law. Under the Open Meetings Law, the public has the right to attend any meeting of a public body. Any time a quorum of a public body gathers to discuss business, the meeting must be held in public, subject to the right to convene an executive session under certain limited circumstances. Non-members must conform to the usual requirements of parliamentary procedure; the Parliamentarian will interpret and enforce the rules which include that no non-member of the body may speak without the permission of the body.

As always, we pledge to recognize any member of faculty who wishes to contribute to our dialogue.