

**QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

The City University of New York

**ACADEMIC SENATE**

**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ELECTIVE PROGRAMS**

**TO:** Emily Tai,  
**FROM:** Howard Sporn, Former Chair, Committee on Academic Development and Elective Programs  
**SUBJECT:** **Annual Report** for Committee on Academic Development and Elective Programs for 2012/2013  
**DATE:** September 10, 2013

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**Committee Members:**

Howard Sporn (Chair)  
Franca Ferrari (Secretary)  
James Cutrone  
Mohammed Javadi  
Sandra Marcus  
Leslie Francis (Steering Committee Designee)

The committee met seven times during the fall and spring semester. Meetings were held on:

Oct. 12, 2012 at 11 AM  
Dec. 13, 2012 at 9 AM  
Apr. 3, 2013 at 4 PM  
Apr. 12, 2013 at 11 AM  
Apr. 26, 2013 at 11 AM  
May 3, 2013 at 11 AM  
May 17, 2013 at 1:30 PM

Faculty Workshop

The committee decided to hold a workshop on The Purpose of a Community College Education. Franca sent out invitations for panelists. She also wrote and sent out flyers advertising the event. Sandra and James agreed to serve as moderators of the workshop. They wrote questions to ask

the panelists. Franca contacted the B&G department for setting up tables and chairs for the panelists. Howard and Franca compiled a set of recent articles about the topic, which were distributed to the panelists and to the participants. Leslie contacted the food service regarding refreshments, and Franca contacted Michelle Cuomo for the budget.

The workshop was held on May 8, during club hours (1-3 PM) in LB-14. Howard opened the workshop and introduced the committee's members and the panelists. Franca and Leslie distributed cards to the audience for questions and collected them during the workshop. Participating panelists were Prof. Ted Rosen (Business), Prof. David Rothman (Basic Skills), Prof. Melanie Sehman (Music), Prof. Linda Reesman (English), Prof. Paris Svoronos (Chemistry) and Prof. Andrea Salis (Health). The rules of the moderation were changed during the workshop to allow the audience to interact with the panelists.

The general consensus among the committee members is that the workshop was a great success. Panelists also said they enjoyed participating. 25 audience members turned out for the workshop.

#### Work with CETL

Howard met with Meg Tarafdar from CETL (Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning) to discuss cooperation between this committee and CETL. Meg recommended some possible workshops that could be organized (See the section below on future events).

The committee decided to focus on one workshop during the 2012-13 school year, the one on the purpose of a community college education.

#### CETL Survey

The committee worked with CETL to distribute a survey to faculty for the purpose of determining what types of workshops the faculty would like CETL to offer next year. Jane Hineman of CETL read the CETL's faculty questionnaire. The committee discussed possible changes and modifications and a final version of the questionnaire was approved.

The survey was posted on Survey Monkey. Franca sent several emails to faculty asking them to participate in the survey.

#### Work with Honors Committee

James met with Dr. Paris Sovornos, head of the honor program, and reported on the need to recruit more faculty members who are willing to create more honor courses in their programs.

Recommendations:

Meg Tarafdar from CETL (Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning) suggested the following topics for future workshops:

- (1) Workshop on student engagement practices;
- (2) Workshop on classroom management and;
- (3) Workshop on pedagogies of diversity.

It is recommended that the committee continue to work with CETL and with the Honors Committee. The committee could help improve/modify the forms used by students to evaluate faculty.

**New Committee Members (2013/2014):**

Leslie Francis (Chair)

Andreas Salis (Secretary)

Franca Ferrari

Christopher Roblowski

Howard Sporn

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Sporn, Former Chair