

STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CUNY
MONTHLY REPORT
March 10, 2015

All positions in the QCC **Academic Senate** and its committees are currently filled.

At the request of the **Committee on Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness**, the resolution to mandate numerical tabulation on the Student Evaluation Forms has been removed from the Senate agenda. This committee is continuing to discuss the issue of “grade inflation.”

The **Committee on Bylaws** is considering a resolution to allow electronic voting within Senate committees with the exception of the **Curriculum Committee**.

The **Committee on Committees** (COC) is in receipt of requests from 123 faculty for placement into 40 openings as committee members or Steering Committee designees. The COC has also received 15 faculty nominations for 13 open seats for the 2015-16 Academic Senate. Two CLTs and one Adjunct are running for those three open seats. In addition, candidates for the Academic Senate have the option of placing a personal statement on the Academic Senate’s webpage that can then be accessed under “Current Candidate Information.” Candidates should send their statements directly to Senate Secretary Joel Kuszai for posting.

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 the faculty who wishes to contribute to our dialogue. Access the Academic Senate webpages through the QCC website under “Governance.”

Special thanks to Professors Julita Haber and Nina Sarkar of Business who have agreed to be a part of our Steering Committee’s **“Survey Subcommittee”** that will embark upon a preliminary survey of our various Senate committees. We are discussing what we hope to learn and the best, most appropriate practices for doing so. We know, for example, that we want to keep it anonymous and confidential. We're still formulating this, so if you have any ideas please share them with us.

Every month the Senate agenda provides a link to the minutes of the **University Faculty Senate** (UFS). The Steering Committee would like to thank QCC UFS Representative Dr. Beth Counihan for her notes on the meeting of February 10th. Chancellor Milliken attended and reported on his lobbying efforts in Albany. As Dr. Counihan reports, in Governor Cuomo's budget "ASAP not funded; TAP underfunded; SEEK and College Discovery not funded; childcare at community colleges not funded; annual step increases not funded. He [the Chancellor] spoke of the proposed mandate for experiential learning—curriculum would be up to faculty and "there's more work to be done" and noted President Obama's reference to ASAP in his outlining of the federal community college initiative." The Steering Committee has prepared a statement for Senate endorsement calling for increases in New York State support for the City University of New York (Attachment G).