

**Queensborough Community College
Academic Senate**

To: Prof. Kathleen Villani, Secretary, Steering Committee
From: Dr. Rosemary Iconis, UFS representative, for QCC
Date: 15, November 2006

**The 323rd Plenary Session of the University Faculty Senate
The City University of New York
Tuesday, November 14th, 2006, 6:30 p.m.**

- I. Approval of the evening’s Agenda and of the minutes of the October 2006 meeting**
- II. Discussion prior to the vote on the resolution for the UFS concerning Faculty Consideration of Assessment Measures**
 - Professors Beaky and others expressed great concern about the lack of faculty involvement regarding the adoption of the CLA and other assessment measures.
 - Professor Pecorino spoke about the lack of the need for the CLA citing that while the instrument checks reading, writing and possibly, critical thinking, instruments are already in place to examine these things. He and others questioned the validity and reliability of the test.
 - Professor O’Malley suggested inserting language about the Perez decision into the language of the resolution.
- III. Discussion prior to the vote on the resolution to Support Amending Draft Policy on “Student Complaints Against Faculty in Academic Settings”**
 - Professor Baumarin explained that there has been a delay because the resolution needs to be reviewed in terms of the effect that it may have on adjuncts who are the subjects of erroneous student complaints.
 - The Chair of the Status of the Faculty committee expressed that committee’s grave dissatisfaction with the resolution suggesting that it is an unfair and potentially divisive policy. Numerous others expressed equally intensive objections to the resolution. A number of individuals suggested that the Senate refuse to vote on the policy or vote to reject the policy outright.
 - A vote was taken resulting in the body’s acceptance of a resolution proposed by Professor Baumarin saying that UFS rejects the policy.

IV. Reports

- The Chair's Report (written)
No questions were raised.
- The Chair of the UFS Academic Policy Committee, Professor Savage, discussed the report on academic retention. While there are a number of positive recommendations in it, he expressed concern about a number of contradictions within the report as well.
- Professor Pecorino suggested that community college students have vastly different goals and that there is no one determination of student success. He also said that additional resources for our students are not addressed in the report.
- Professor Crane said that students are mainly dropping out because of income and yet the tuition continues to increase.

V. Panel on Doctoral Program Restructuring

- The Chancellor convened a task force following recommendations made by the Silby report. A representative of the task force, Professor Jones, discussed the plan. Topics covered included federal funding, joint degree programs and recruitment.
- Professor Savage said that science programs are quite expensive and asked if we might lack the resources to support the program. Professor Jones reminded us of the superb faculty that we have and have been able to recruit, all of whom are capable of generating substantial grants.
- Professor Baumarin said that the restructuring will undermine undergraduate science education and that faculty concern over this issue is vital.

The consensus of the panel is that dissolving the consortia model is not the way to go.