

**Queensborough Community College**  
The City University of New York  
**Steering Committee Report**

**For the February 13, 2007 meeting of the Academic Senate**

**1. Senate Matters**

Meetings: In order for a policy to be approved by the Academic Senate an absolute majority is recorded to vote in favor of it. That would be 38 votes. This is so regardless of the number in attendance.

As the Senate has previously expressed a desire to avoid physical ballots and as there is a requirement to record all votes we ask for your cooperation. To facilitate the recording of the ballots by voice on matters where there is a considerable number of votes cast in favor and against any proposal we ask that senators participate in a roll call voting method. The roster names will be called and the secretary will record votes of YES or NO or ABSTAIN on a roster ballot tally sheet and then announce the totals. This will be done in a manner that all may observe on the front screen.

**2. Senate Bylaws**

We anticipate that we will soon be receiving recommendations for such changes to the Senate bylaws as are made necessary by recent court decisions.

**3. Special Committees**

The Special Committee on Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities and the Student Complaint Process The final report of this committee is on the Agenda once again as the Senate did not consider the item in December.

The CUNY proposal for the Student Complaint Policy and Procedures has now been reviewed at the Chancellery and there has been an action of the Board of Trustees that has set a University policy and has imposed a common procedure on all campuses. That Policy is included as an attachment to the present Agenda.

**4. Possible Resolutions**

- A. Under Old Business is the proposal for a Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities
- B. Under Old Business is the previous proposal for a QCC Policy creating a process for Student Complaints Concerning Faculty in Academic Settings. The CUNY BOT Policy passed on 1-29-07 imposes a procedure on all campuses. The BOT procedure takes precedence over local procedures. Thus, there is no need to pass a procedure for QCC. There may still be some need for minor revisions in the language to implement the CUNY Policy at QCC due to local titles and circumstances. If so, the College office responsible for implementing the BOT Policy should make the appropriate recommendations to the Academic Senate.

**5. CUNY Matters**

There are several documents related to matters pending with the CUNY BOT placed on the agenda under New Business. The University Faculty Senate (UFS) members and the Faculty Governance Leaders (FGL) are asked for their views on such pending matters and they are asked to report on what the campuses are thinking about them. Such matters are placed on the agenda of other CUNY governing

bodies and on the agenda of faculty councils and senates in CUNY. Often the input of the UFS and FGL to the Chancellery does produce modifications in the proposals being considered.

The Steering Committee holds that it is a responsibility of the governing body leadership to inform the community about such matters, particularly when input from the campuses is being sought by the UFS or the Chancellery. Both the Chancellor and several Vice Chancellors meet with the UFS and FGL at least once each semester and present these matters and listen to feedback. Such matters as proposed policies are often presented to the CUNY Council of Presidents for their comments and suggestions. There needs to be some means for gauging the variety of thinking on a campus so that it can be reported through the appropriate channels to those who are working on the proposed policies.