

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

1. Senate Matters: Composition and Membership

As of this writing, members of Queensborough's faculty, CLTs, and HEOs, have been in receipt of invitations to apply for assignment to committees of the Academic Senate (although we note that different committees require different membership). We wish to remind members of our faculty and staff who are interested in continuing on a committee on which they currently serve that committee membership *must be applied for every year*. There are no "automatic" committee appointments, so we hope all interested members of faculty and HEOs have submitted applications, which were due yesterday.

Members of faculty, HEOs, and Adjuncts will also shortly be invited to nominate themselves or colleagues to run for the Academic Senate. We would like to strongly encourage members of our college community to consider service on this important body. We would also like to appeal to members of our Academic Senate who have not been able to attend meetings recently to join us for our March meetings. Your voice, and your vote, are very important!

2. Committee Matters: Composition and Membership

- The Steering Committee has been working with the Committee on Committees to fill several vacancies that occurred during the month of February as the result of spring teaching schedules and other conditions. We are delighted to report that the eLearning Committee has elected a new chairperson, Dr. Mangala Tawde (Biological Sciences and Geology). The election of a new chair to the Committee on Publications is pending. The Steering Committee has also appointed a new designee to the Committee on eLearning. As always, we would like to thank those members of our faculty who served on Committee of the Academic Senate, and welcome the faculty members who will be serving in their stead.

2. Committee Matters: Activities

- The new Queensborough website format, and the transfer of archived governance materials to the website, has created a few interesting challenges for record-keeping. The Steering Committee has undertaken a variety of projects: update of the Committee on Committee guide, to accommodate new technology instructions, and the clarification of voting procedures being established by our Senate Technology Officer and Special Elections Officer, Dr. Belle Birchfield; and a review of the new governance website contents. In the course of undertaking the latter task, the Steering Committee has discovered that some Committee charges do not correspond to the charges given in the Bylaws of the Academic Senate; and that portions of the Bylaws themselves require some

update. As of this writing, we have asked particular committees to look into the discrepancies we have discovered in order to either resolve them or propose bylaws amendments where appropriate. We have also been reviewing our files, to make sure that we have added any minutes and relevant files that the Steering Committee has maintained. The Steering Committee wishes to express its grateful thanks to David Moretti, who has been unstintingly generous with his time as members of the Steering Committee and Committee chairs endeavor to master the new website loading protocols, and to recognize the extraordinary work of Dr. Lana Zinger, Secretary of the Academic Senate.

- The Steering Committee also wishes to recognize the diligence of the Chair of the Committee on Committees, Professor Galatia Iakovou, who has been initiating the process of collecting applications for committee membership and working closely with Dr. Birchfield on the elections process. We also wish to thank Mr. Raj Vaswani for all his trouble in assisting in the process of arranging committee selection and on-line referendum procedures for the Revised Governance plan. We are so grateful for his time and expertise!
- In response to continuing concerns from members of our Queensborough Community, the Steering Committee of the Academic Senate has requested a report from the Committee on Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Matters concerning the current status of the Tobacco Implementation Plan. Of particular interest is the consideration of how compliance will be enforced, and whether non-compliance, particularly among students, will carry disciplinary sanctions. We are informed that this report should be available for the April Senate.
- As per the action of the Committee on Bylaws, Queensborough's newly constituted Budget Advisory Committee has also met with Vice-President Newcomb to begin the annual budget consultation process. The Steering Committee would like to thank the members of the Committee of Chairs, the Faculty Executive Committee, and the Student Government Association for their nomination of members to serve on this important committee.
- The Steering Committee would also like to recognize the tireless, and continuing efforts of our members of the Committee on Curriculum, who have begun the Herculean labor of assisting departments as they assess the extent to which the Pathways Project may compel course revisions and modifications of Queensborough's thirty-one degree programs. The work of the Committee on Curriculum, as senators will note, has been incorporated, along with the revised charges of the Special Committee on General Education Outcomes, into Queensborough's Implementation plan for the Pathways initiative, submitted in this agenda for Academic Senate Review.

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

- Members of Steering Committee of the Academic Senate join with members of the Faculty Executive Committee in renewing their thanks to the Committee of Chairs, the Student Association, and the members of the Student Election Review Committee for working with us to complete the revisions of the Queensborough Governance Plan, and facilitate the referenda for students and for faculty. As of this writing, the Steering Committee and the Faculty Executive Committee await only final advise concerning student participation in the referendum.