

Steering Committee Report

February 14, 2017

Senate membership is stable and all Senate committees are fully staffed and functioning smoothly. Emails from the Committee on Committees have gone out to all senators with expiring terms, so please be sure to check when your term ends and, if so desired, run for reelection.

The Committee on Committees will also be sending a notice out to all eligible members of the Faculty, and HEOs, regarding membership on Committees of the Academic Senate. Senators who are serving a three-year term on a Committee of the Academic Senate do not need to reapply for their committee—but faculty whose terms are expiring, and wish to serve on a committee of the Academic Senate **MUST** apply for that committee through the form they receive. We hope Senators, particularly those who are department chairs, will partner with the Steering Committee in making sure that all interested faculty who are eligible to serve, apply. We also wish to thank Queensborough's Student Government Association, and SGA advisors Gisela Rivera and Raymond Volel, for encouraging Student Senators to apply as representatives to our committees of the Academic Senate.

The Bylaws Committee is currently reviewing a resolution to make the Food Insecurity Committee a Standing Committee of the Academic Senate. We believe that taking this step will help us achieve the permanent integration of the Food Pantry into the fabric of Queensborough Community College. For the new semester, we would like to thank outgoing Committee member Aviva Geismar, and welcome four new members: John Gilleaudeau, Elizabeth Di Giorgio, Annisa Moody, and Leah Anderst. We also wish to thank our continuing members for their extraordinary dedication and leadership: Amy Traver, Susan Jacobowitz, Sharon Ellerton, as well as service-learning partners Christine Mooney, Sharon Ellerton, and Lana Zinger.

The Steering Committee has placed on the agenda a minor revision to the recently passed Mission Statement that also includes specific guidelines clarifying the statement.

Joel Kuszai, Secretary of the Academic Senate Steering Committee, along with many of the chairs of senate standing committees, attended a session hosted by David Moretti from the Office of Marketing and Communication about changes to the Cascade content management system. Joel reported to the Steering Committee that the technical changes are minimal but that the larger issue is of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Apparently, many of the documents on the College website are not ADA compliant. Joel has agreed to work with Dave to make sure that we're doing everything we can so that going forward all Senate related documents are compliant/ You will hear more from this at an upcoming Senate meeting.

The Faculty Executive Committee has requested information on future plans for the new Atrium and the current status of assessment of High Impact Practices (HIPs). The Steering Committee is working with the chairs of the Committee on Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Matters; the Committee on Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, and the Committee on WID/WAC, to produce that information.