

**Queensborough Community College Academic Senate Committee on Bylaws
Minutes of the Fall 2009, November 12-25, 2009 Meeting
Conducted via the QCC Email System**

Committee Members Present: Dr. David Sarno, Chair, Dr. Caf Dowlah, Dr. Janice Molloy, Dr. Jonathan Cornick, Dr. Joseph Goldenberg, Ms. Liza Larios, Dr. Christine Mooney, Secretary.

Quorum present: Yes.

The minutes of the Fall 2008 meeting of the Academic Senate Committee on Bylaws was submitted to the committee in the Spring of 2009 for its first meeting. The minutes of the meeting were accepted by the committee.

Spring 2009

Dr. Sarno convened the first meeting of the new committee members in the Spring of 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to allow committee members to introduce themselves. Dr. Sarno also provided an update on the previous year's actions of the committee. Dr. Sarno indicated that there was a need to elect new officers of the committee. Dr. Sarno was nominated and elected to serve as the Chair of the Bylaws Committee. Dr. Christine Mooney and Dr. Janice Molloy were nominated and elected to serve as Secretary of the Committee on Bylaws. The meeting was adjourned with no further business.

Fall 2009 – Bylaws Committee Convened via Email with the permission of Dr. Emily Tai

Proceedings: Dr. David Sarno, the Chair of the Academic Senate Committee on Bylaws contacted the committee members to convene a meeting of the committee in November of 2009. After responses from committee members, Dr. Sarno, in an email to committee members dated the 12th day of November, 2009, stated, “ After looking at the times the committee members are available to meet, I cannot seem to find one that suits us all. I prefer not to exclude anyone, so I propose that we address the matter before us via email. Emily Tai has confirmed that this is acceptable. Any messages we send to each other shall constitute the minutes of the meeting.” The committee agreed to discuss the issue via the QCC email system. A discussion was held amongst the committee members listed above. A detailed summary of the email discussion is included below.

Dr. David Sarno, in an email dated the 12th day of November summarized the matter before the committee. The Committee on the Gallery and Performing Arts submitted a proposal to change their name and method of operation. Dr. Sarno stated that he had read the proposal submitted to him as the chair of the committee. These changes were proposed as a result of the committee's new role with the Holocaust Resource Center. The charge of the committee described them as a liaison who would report, recommend and advocate, but who would no longer be charged with administrative or programmatic

decisions. Dr. Sarno stated that he believed it appropriate for the committee to change its name since the current actions of the committee were not in line with the current committee guidelines.

Dr. Sarno noted that the proposal as submitted significantly changed the charges and responsibilities of the committee. Additionally, Dr. Sarno noted that he believed the rationale as submitted was vague and did not sufficiently provide explanation for presentation to the Academic Senate in its present form.

Dr. Sarno proposed a change in the resolution as submitted by the committee to indicate that the language in Item A, be changed from “student body and faculty”, to “students, faculty and staff,” or “the rest of the campus community.”

The recommendation from Dr. Sarno to the committee :

Recommendation: Return the proposal to the Committee on the Gallery and Performing Arts, asking them to elaborate on the rationale and revise Item A. Dr. Sarno asked for responses from the committee members via reply to all on the QCC email system.

Dr. Dowlah submitted an additional proposal, “Change the name to Committee on Gallery, Arts and Exhibitions.” He stated his vote was no to the proposed name of the Committee. A shortened name would allow for increased flexibility. Dr. Dowlah believed the rationale was appropriate as provided by the committee. Dr. Dowlah supported the increase in the membership of the committee from nine to 10.

Dr. Janice Molloy indicated that the proposed name was acceptable and asked for a revision of paragraph A.

Dr. Joseph Goldenberg indicated his support of a shortened name for the committee.

Dr. Jonathan Cornick indicated his support of a shortened name for the committee.

Dr. Christine Mooney indicated her support for a shortened name for the committee and supported Dr. Sarno’s recommendation for an explanation of the rationale as provided by the committee due to the significant change in their responsibilities.

Ms. Liza Larios indicated she supported the use of the proposed title which indicates specific charges.

These recommendations and exchanges occurred over the email system between November 12-18, 2009.

Dr. Sarno sent an email dated November 18, 2009 to all committee members summarizing the committee’s responses. Dr. Sarno asked for an additional round of comments before making a recommendation to the committee.

Another round of email submissions were made to Dr. Sarno. The following was the final action of the committee.

On Wednesday, November 25th, Dr. Sarno wrote to Dr. Zivah Perel, regarding the submission to the Committee on Bylaws. Dr. Sarno informed Dr. Perel that the proposed committee name change had been rejected by the committee. Dr. Sarno suggested the proposal be resubmitted with some revisions. Dr. Sarno informed Dr. Perel that many of the committee members believed the name change was cumbersome. Dr. Sarno informed Dr. Perel that the proposed rationale as provided be revised to include an explanation as to why the proposed name had been selected. There was also a recommendation to revise paragraph (a) to be more inclusive of the members of the college community.

Dr. Sarno informed Dr. Perel that the matter could not be addressed by the Academic Senate in 2009, but could be placed on the agenda for the first meeting of 2010. Dr. Sarno directed Dr. Perel to contact him with any questions or revised proposals.

The matter before the bylaws committee was adjourned on November 25, 2009, pending further submissions from Dr. Perel.

Dr. Sarno thanked the members of the committee for their exchange of ideas. No further business was conducted during the Fall 2009 semester.

In February of 2010, Dr. Sarno contacted the members of the Bylaws committee regarding the submission of a new proposal from the Gallery Committee. Dr. Sarno sent this proposal to all committee members. An initial discussion began over email, however, the committee then received two additional items for review. Therefore, a decision was made to convene an in person meeting of the committee, for March 10th at 11 am.

The discussion was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Mooney, Secretary
Bylaws Committee of the Academic Senate