

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AND ARCHIVAL RESOURCES (CAR)
Meeting Minutes: May 15, 2012

Attendees:

- Rosemary Zins – Vice President for Institutional Advancement
- Susan Agin – Executive Director of the
Queensborough Performing Arts Center (QPAC)
- Jo Pantaleo – Service-Learning Project Director and
Director of the Basic Skills Learning Center
- Meg Tarafdar – Director, Center for Excellence in Teaching and
Learning (CETL)
- Isabella Lizzul – Assistant Professor of Massage Therapy
(Chair of CAR Committee)
- Jeffrey L. Schwartz – Instructor of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Technology (ECET)
(Secretary of CAR Committee)
- Julia Carroll – Associate Professor of Basic Educational Skills
- Lorraine M. Cupelli – Assistant Professor of Nursing
- John Gilleaudeau – Instructor of Social Sciences
- Eileen White -- Associate Professor of Speech, Communication, and
Theater Arts

Absentees:

- Dr. Arthur Flug – Executive Director of the Kupferberg Holocaust
Resource Center (HRC) and Archives
- Faustino Quintanilla – Executive Director of the QCC Art Gallery
- Zivah Perel Katz – Associate Professor of English

The meeting began at 11:05 a.m.

Everyone approved the minutes of our April 24, 2012 meeting.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

Prof. White was welcomed to the CAR Committee.

RE-ELECTIONS

Prof. Lizzul was re-elected CAR Committee Chair.
Prof. Schwartz was re-elected CAR Committee Secretary.

COMMITTEE WEBSITE

Prof. Lizzul mentioned that we need to put all of our old minutes on the CAR Committee website. Prof. Schwartz has electronic copies of the minutes since October 2010. Director Agin has hard copies of minutes from before then.

CULTURAL CONNECTION VIDEOS

Prof. Gilleaudeau informed the committee that the websites are up for the Kupferberg HRC and Archives and for the Art Gallery, though connections have yet to be made for the Art Gallery links. Director Agin will meet with the person in charge of the website to make changes to QPAC's page. More videos will be made, ideally with more than one person at a time.

CULTURAL CONNECTION AS DIVERSITY/GLOBAL LEARNING

After our discussion at the last meeting, Director Tarafdar and Prof. Lizzul forwarded the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) packet on High-Impact Educational Practices. The committee read the following in Chart A of this packet:

Beginning in school, and continuing at successively higher levels across their college studies, students should prepare for twenty-first century challenges by gaining:

- Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World
 - Through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, histories, languages, and the arts" (underlining added)

Cultural connections can definitely be counted as a high-impact strategy, so, Prof. Carroll proposed, can it stand on its own as something we can encourage the faculty to include in their courses? Vice President Zins pointed out that "Cultural Connection", unlike "High-Impact", is not a term that is recognized nationally, so it would be difficult to compare any data that is collected for retention improvement to any other efforts. However, included in Part 1 of the packet is the following:

Diversity/Global Learning

Many colleges and universities now emphasize courses and programs that help students explore cultures, life experiences, and worldviews different from their own. These studies—which may address U.S. diversity, world cultures, or both—often explore “difficult differences” such as racial, ethnic, and gender inequality, or continuing struggles around the globe for human rights, freedom, and power. Frequently intercultural studies are augmented by experiential learning in the community and/or by study abroad.

While we can continue to encourage the faculty to Make the Cultural Connection as part of Service Learning, we can also encourage the faculty to Make the Cultural Connection as part of Diversity/Global Learning, which QCC does not currently have. Not only is Diversity/Global Learning a nationally recognized high-impact strategy, but it is also a source of grants for which QCC has not yet been able to apply.

Prof. Carroll, Prof. Lizzull, and Director Tarafdar arranged to meet with Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Michelle Cuomo and possibly with Vice President Karen Steele to encourage them to add Making the Cultural Connection, with its high-impact strategies of Service Learning and Diversity/Global Learning, a priority that President Call will announce at the Fall 2012 Welcome Meeting.

WELCOME MEETING AND SEMINARS

To help encourage faculty to Make the Cultural Connection, we should be sure to have brochures, videos, and speakers ready for the welcome meeting. The Kupferberg HRC, Art Gallery, and QPAC should bring brochures of their upcoming events and exhibits to the Welcome Meeting so that the faculty can start to plan what they can incorporate into their classes.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place in September 2012 and will be scheduled toward the beginning of the fall semester.

At 12:20 p.m. Prof. Lizzul moved to adjourn the meeting. Several attendees seconded this motion.

Minutes recorded by Jeffrey L. Schwartz