Steering Committee Report

October 18, 2016

The Academic Senate and its committees are all fully staffed, and I would like to acknowledge Vice-Chair Emily Tai and Committee on Committees Chair Christine Mooney for their considerable attention to detail in that regard.

Our fall semester meeting of all the committee chairs took place Wednesday, October 5th. Committee charges were discussed and David Moretti presented on the proper procedures for placing committee materials on the Senate website. Other issues addressed included poor faculty morale and the overall effectiveness of shared governance.

Another discussion addressed the current hallway overcrowding particularly in the Medical Arts and Humanities buildings. An unintended consequence of the widespread proliferation of the smart rooms has been that students waiting for class to begin have been unable to enter their classrooms that are locked due to security concerns. Can a balance be struck that both respects the students and alleviates hallway overcrowding, while continuing to address valid security concerns? The Steering Committee requests that senators offer their comments and suggestions on this directly to us in person or via email.

The Steering Committee also strongly supports the restoration of full access to Queensborough's email lists. Requests have been made to the President and her Administration and discussions will continue. Again, the Steering Committee requests that senators offer their views on this matter to us directly, in person or via email.

The Lucille A. Bova Food Pantry is now in its second month of successful operation. Attachment F of this Agenda is a report from the Subcommittee on Food Insecurity, which provides updates and thanks the many members of our Queensborough Community who have been contributing to this effort.

At the direction of Governor Cuomo, experiential learning (ELO) is coming to CUNY. The Steering Committee would like to thank President Call for her statement to us that the definition of and modes of implementation of ELO must be entirely decided by faculty, and we are looking forward to cooperating with her Administration and CETL (Center for Teaching and Learning) in the formulation of this new initiative at Queens borough.