

Queensborough Community College
The City University of New York

Steering Committee Report

**For the May 9, 2006 meeting of the
Academic Senate**

1. Senate Membership

The elections have been held for several members in different titles:

- Faculty Members-at-large (13)

Cesarano, Michael
Appleman, Jacob
Fitzgerald-Royce, Deborah
Stanley, Linda

Pecorino, Phillip
Ansani, Antonella
Reilly, Margaret
Hest, Jeff

Weiss, Paul
Trachman, Matthew
Dunkelblau, Helene
Hersh, Brenda

An election is needed to resolve a tie vote for the 13th faculty member at large. The Committee on Committees will be conducting that election at this meeting. Tied are Jenny Lin-Martinez and Georgia McGill.

- CLT's at-large (2) elected are Arminda Amy Ching and Richard Victolo.
- Adjunct member (1) elected is Fredericks, Robert
- And for the first time we have HEO's At-large (2) elected are Anna May Jagoda and Josephine Pantaleo.

We welcome the new members. We thank departing members for their service: Nathan Chao, Julia Ortiz-Griffin and Regina Sullivan.

We thank long serving CLT member James Spinella who has elected to end his tenure as Senator.

2. Senate Bylaws

An accurate set of the bylaws is now available in the College Archives and on the website at:

http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/Governance/AcademicSenate/academic_senate_bylaws.asp

Thanks to the work of the Committees on Bylaws, Publications and the College Webmaster.

3. Standing Committees

There were 114 volunteers (an increase) for service on 17 committees with 81 positions (a decrease of 4). The Steering Committee for 2006-2007 will place 17 of those on the waiting list onto committees as their designees. This will leave 16 people who will remain on the waiting list and may be placed onto committees by the Committee on Committees in the event of a vacancy. The Steering Committee should also forward those names to the Faculty Executive Committee for their information and consideration.

Work in Progress:

The Committee on Bylaws will be presenting to the Senate in May a number of proposals for revisions in the bylaws required by the court decision in the Perez case and on the matter of the possible formation of a Committee on Academic Freedom.

The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions may also have a policy proposal for Senate consideration concerning formally establishing a number of ceremonies, most of which have become traditional at the College.

The Committee on Continuing Education reports that it in response to recommendations and requests that it will be entering into a new posture with respect to its charges.

The Committee on Computer Resources has been working well with IT and with the complete and cordial cooperation of the IT Director will soon be reporting on a number of measures taken by IT to improve services and involve this committee in a review of actions taken.

The Committee on Distance Education may have some recommendations or policies for consideration of the Senate.

4. Promoting Faculty Involvement In Local Governance - Particularly senior tenured faculty

With the untenured faculty there may be some reluctance or anxiety in serving in any position where they may act in a manner that could be detrimental to them in the personnel review process for tenure and promotion.

For the senior tenured faculty there appears to be a failure to accept the professional responsibility to represent faculty in governance matters.

What can be done to encourage participation? Here are a number of items that are possible. Fortunately, at QCC we are doing most of this already. At this meeting of the Academic Senate there is the addition of the award of recognition.

POSSIBLE MEASURES to ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION:

1. A statement to all faculty from the current college president on how college service, particularly on some governance body, is recognized and valued by the administration.
2. A statement to all faculty from the department chairpersons on how college service particularly on some governance body is recognized and valued by the members of the College P & B Committee. Such a statement should be as clear and precise as possible leaving no doubt as to its sincerity and importance.
3. Having Department Chairpersons encourage faculty participation and emphasize the importance of being involved on college wide-committees and advise faculty in the department accordingly.
4. The Governing Body of the college should express its appreciation of faculty involvement and service by making awards of recognition for those who have had long and significant records of college service and contributions to the role of faculty in governance.
5. The faculty leaders should make clear expressions of the effective involvement of faculty in the governance process that has produced changes at the college thus establishing that such service on committee and the like is not a waste of time or merely an item on the vita but a way to contribute and to "make a difference".
6. The governance body should request released time and other forms of support for faculty serving on key committees and task forces, etc...
7. Faculty members of the governance body encourage untenured and tenured faculty participation in local governance.

5. Steering Committee Award for Recognition of College Service and Contributions to Governance

Whereas, the Academic Senate Steering Committee wishes to recognize and pay tribute to those who have contributed to the governance of Queensborough Community College,

Whereas, the Academic Senate Steering Committee wishes to recognize significant college service and contributions to governance by members of the Academic Senate,

Now let it be known that the Academic Senate Steering Committee will issue a **Recognition of College Service and Contribution to Governance Award** for those who have contributed to the College and to its Governance and,

Further, let it be known that such awards will be made known at a meeting of the Academic Senate and that the Academic Senate may veto the award,

Finally, let it be known that any member of the Senate may present candidates from any constituency of the Academic Senate for nomination to the Steering Committee.