

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Senate Matters: Composition and Membership

As of this writing, the Committee on Committees has completed its election of thirteen faculty Senators-at-large. The Steering Committee is pleased to welcome Mr. Charles Pranci as one of the Senate's two representatives of the college's Computer Laboratory Technicians. A second election for the second CLT representative, to replace Mr. Thomas Shemanski, who is retiring, is in progress. The Steering Committee wishes to thank any Computer Laboratory Technicians who might consider nominating themselves for this position, and thank the chairs of the departments in which they serve for their encouragement and support.

The Steering Committee also wishes to take this opportunity to thank the following Senators who will be completing their term with this May meeting for giving so generously of their time and attention to support shared governance at Queensborough Community College:

Paul Azrak
Jean Darcy
Elyn Feldman
Eugene Harris
Roland Scal

The Steering committee would also like to congratulate and welcome those faculty who will join—or rejoin—us for a term ending in 2013:

Peter Bales
Alexandra Tarasko
Lorena Ellis
Regina Rochford
Joel Kuszai
Shannon E. Kincaid
Margot Edlin
Linda Reesman
Craig Weber
Lana Zinger
Helene Dunkelblau
Haishen Yao

The Steering Committee has, however, noted a tie between the thirteenth and fourteenth candidates for the faculty Senate: Professors Julian Stark, Reuvain Zahavy have each received 53 votes to become Senators. In such cases, Article I Section 2 of the Bylaws mandates the following course of action:

Where two or more nominees are tied for the same place in the preferential order, the names of those so tied shall be presented to the Academic Senate for action.

An election to determine which of these two senators takes precedence will be held on the floor of the Academic Senate.

Pending resolution of the matter discussed above, the Senate would also like to offer its thanks to the Alternates who have graciously agreed to “stand by” should our body need them:

Julian Stark/Reuvain Zahavy
Regina Polizzotto
Shele Bannon
Kelly Ford
Chung Jue
Andrew Nguyen
Todd Holden
Maurizio Santoro
Tirandai Hemraj- Benny
Isabella Lizzul

Senators will also note that the minutes of the April 9, 2010 meeting of the Academic Senate have recorded the number of nay votes and abstention votes for the resolutions considered at this meeting. While the names of these individuals have been omitted from the minutes, the Steering Committee wishes to indicate that these names are available to any and all who may be interested to know, and that the Steering Committee is pleased to make them available upon request, as we are required by law to record the names and votes of members of the Academic Senate, just as members of the standing committees of the Academic Senate are required to record their votes and make them available upon request, as per Article II Section 8 of our By-Laws: *Record of Final Votes*:

The Freedom of Information Law requires that a public agency must maintain a record of the final vote of each member in every agency proceeding in which the member votes. In order to minimize delay, especially on uncontroversial matters, several motions may be grouped together for a single vote and/or the chair may seek unanimous consent of the members present. All senate votes will be recorded and the minutes will note those who vote in the negative or who abstain.

As Senators utilize our clicker system to register their vote, the Steering Committee also wishest to take this opportunity to respectfully remind all Senators who choose to abstain from a vote that the correct way to do so is to press “C” on your clicker. Unfortunately,

if a senator elects to abstain by not voting, neither the abstention nor the Senator can be counted toward the quorum needed for our governance body to function.

2. Committee Matters: Composition and Membership

A full roster of committee members was elected by the Academic Senate at our last meeting, April 9, 2010, and the Steering Committee is in receipt of the list of recommended Designees to the various Committees. A few matters of committee assignment are still in the process of being modified, based upon a few complications the Steering Committee and Committee on Committees encountered in working out the final list, and based upon any additional changes that may be compelled by results of the election of Steering Committee members, Parliamentarian, and Senate Technology Officer from the Senate floor at the May meeting. The Steering Committee, in conjunction with the Committee on Committees, would also like to thank the Department Chairs for helping our committees to finalize the following list of members for the new Committee of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness:

Philip Pecorino
Tirandai Hemraj-Benny
Devin McKay
Mary Ann Rosa
Dimitrios Kokkinos
Regina Sullivan
Georgia McGill
William Marsh (Steering Committee Designee)

The Steering Committee wishes to thank all faculty, Higher Education Officers, and students who have served as members and committee officers, and who may be leaving or rotating off committees where they have rendered exemplary service.

3. Committee Matters: Activities

- As of this writing, the Steering Committee has formally met with the chairs of all committees of the Academic Senate, and reviewed the various components of end-of-year procedures, including the election of new committee chairs and the preparation of annual reports. The Steering Committee, in concert with the Committee on Committees, has also been at work on a few modifications to the current committee guides that will address thorny issues such as the particulars of “paperless” on-line elections, and the template the Committee on Committees uses for assigning faculty to committees. The Steering Committee would like to thank all outgoing chairs of committees of the Academic Senate for their dedication and hard work. We are grateful for their guidance, and their commitment to shared governance.
- As of this writing, the Special Committee to Develop On-Line Education has prepared a final report that summarizes both its transactions, and its recommendations, some of which the Steering Committee is delighted to report have already inspired steps to create more on-line education opportunities for our students. These include current plans to collaborate across the campuses of the City University

of New York's six community colleges for the possible eventual launch of an on-line Associates degree program. The Steering Committee would like to thank all the members of this special committee, with special thanks to its chair, Dr. Edward Volchok, for his vision and energy.

- Members of the Academic Senate will note that one item has been placed on this agenda, under "Old Business" that will require a vote: consideration of the Assessment Handbook, which has been offered as an appendix to this report in Attachment J/1 and J/2. A resolution related to this action is also included, Attachment K.

4. College Wide and University Matters

A final consideration of the University Faculty Senate Experience Survey, designed and implemented by Dr. Kathleen Barker, a professor of Psychology at Medgar Evers College, CUNY, shows several areas of concern at Queensborough, including concerns about office space, and the availability of sabbaticals. The Steering Committee of the Academic Senate wishes to thank President Marti, Provost Call, and Faculty Executive Committee Chair, Dr. Sheena Gillespie, who have indicated their willingness to participate in a meeting with members of the Queensborough College Executive Team to consider ways to address these various concerns, which the Steering Committee hopes will be coordinated either before the commencement of annual leave or at a point during the fall of 2010.