

**STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CUNY  
MONTHLY REPORT  
May 13, 2014**

**1. Senate Matters: Composition and Membership**

All positions in the Academic Senate are filled. Elections have now concluded for 14 faculty at large positions for 2014-2017, commencing with the next meeting of the Senate. We want to thank all those who participated in this election of faculty at large members of the Academic Senate for 2014-2017. We thank all of those who cast their ballots. We are happy to see so large a turn out and think it a sign of health for us as faculty and a good sign for shared governance. Of the 354 faculty eligible to vote, 249 (70.34%) voted in this election. We thank particularly all those 28 faculty members who stood for election. We thank all members of the Committee on Committees for facilitating this election.

We congratulate those who have been reelected:

Bertorelli, Joseph  
Birchfield, Belle  
Colalillo, Georgina  
Fletcher-Anthony, Wilma  
Ford, Kelly  
Kolios, Anthony  
Nguyen, Andrew  
Schwartz, Jeffrey

We congratulate those six faculty who are just now becoming now senators and look forward to their service on the Academic Senate:

Jean Amaral  
Barbara Blake-Campbell  
Joan Dupre  
Simran Kaur  
Amy Traver  
Jannette Urciuoli

The website page created for candidates to inform the electorate about themselves appears to have worked out well: <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/CandidatesforSenateMembership.html>

We thank the Senate Secretary, Joel Kuszai, for his assistance with making this happen.

**2. Committee Matters: Composition and Membership**

The Committee on Committees has noted in this month's report that all committees are staffed and now the Steering Committee will make its designees to all committees known and soon the President will do likewise.

At this meeting there will be an election for three members of the Committee on Committees to three year terms. Nominees must not be in departments that will already be represented on the Committee on Committees by the continuing members. They need not be members of the Senate to serve.

Name	Rank	Dept	Role	Term Ends
Harris, Eugene	Associate Professor	Biology	--	2014
Volchok, Edward	Associate Professor	Business	Chair	2014
Yuster, Richard	Professor	Engineering Technology	--	2014
Bialo-Padin, Aithne	Lecturer	History	--	2015
Carroll, Julia	Associate Professor	Academic Literacy	--	2015
Spencer, Cheryl	Associate Professor	Nursing	Secretary	2015
Boccio, Dona	Professor	Mathematics	--	2016
Jankowski, Jeffrey	Associate Professor	Social Sciences	--	2016
Sarno, David	Associate Professor	Chemistry	--	2016

### 3. Committee Matters:

#### A. Structures

The Committee on Committees and the Steering Committee have now completed the first phase of a proposal to restructure the Standing Committees of the Academic Senate to relate the committees to the new MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION Standards for Excellence. ( More to come in 2014-2015 year

**Objectives** include:

- To facilitate the operation of a comprehensive institutional approach to assessment via shared governance and institutional structures
- To accommodate the Middle States Association Review Process with least disruption.
- To provide more opportunities for faculty service to the College by increasing the size of committees
- Providing Staggered terms to insure continuity (faculty members are in multiples of three with 3 year terms)
- Each year most of the committees would involve itself in the annual assessment of those areas under its purview. They would make recommendations as to what they think would improve the assessment process.

With three years terms that are staggered now established it is hoped that in 2014-2015 the meeting times of the committees will become fixed and that will facilitate attendance by both faculty and students.

### 4. University and College Wide Matters with Direct Bearing on the Senate

#### A. The University Faculty Senate

The University Faculty Senate of The City University of New York last met on April 1, 2014. There were no actions taken.

- B. **The CUNY BOT** last met on February 24, 2014 and took several actions. Videos are available here: <http://www.cuny.edu/about/trustees/meetings/broadcasts/archive.html>  
The next meeting is May 5, 2014 and not in time to report on events for this meeting of our Senate.

## 5. Actions of the Steering Committee

### A. Website:

Over this year the Steering Committee has made considerable efforts to advance the use of the website.

The homepage has been upgraded with information about the nature and operation of the Academic Senate: <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/index.html>

There is a Senate News and Views area that can present useful information about what the Senate and its committees are doing: <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/news/index.html>

The Academic Senate website has pages to facilitate both faculty and students learning about the committees when considering volunteering or service on them.

Faculty: [http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/What\\_Faculty\\_need\\_to\\_know.html](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/What_Faculty_need_to_know.html)

Students: [http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/What\\_Students\\_need\\_to\\_know.html](http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/What_Students_need_to_know.html)

It is hoped that the website will continue to grow and serve the needs of our Colelge community.

### B. Voting

Over this year the Steering Committee has made considerable efforts to advance the use of the technology with voting and satisfying the demands of the law at the same time. The Senate minutes contain the actual voting record as recorded by the audience response system program and provides an indication of how many and who were present and how each member of the body voted on each item.

## 6. Shared Governance Discussions and the Academic Senate

In our readiness to entertain discussion of all other college-related matters, we wish to remind all members of Queensborough's faculty that all meetings of the Academic Senate are open to the public as per the 2006 Perez decision on Open Meetings Law, as noted in Article I, Section 3, b of the Bylaws of the Academic Senate:

*Meetings of the Academic Senate shall be subject to the Open Meetings Law and the Freedom of Information Law. Under the Open Meetings Law, the public has the right to attend any meeting of a public body. Any time a quorum of a public body gathers to discuss business, the meeting must be held in public, subject to the right to convene an executive session under certain limited circumstances. Non-members must conform to the usual requirements of parliamentary procedure; the Parliamentarian will interpret and enforce the rules which include that no non-member of the body may speak without the permission of the body.*

As always, we pledge to recognize any member of faculty who wishes to contribute to our dialogue.

## 6. Final Note

As outgoing Chairperson of the Steering Committee of the Academic Senate I want to thank Dr. Emily Tai for her long and distinguished service on the committee and on the Senate and Dr. Joel Kuszai for his service on the committee as well. Without them things would not have gone as well as they have at all.

I want to thank our technology officer as well, Senator Jeffrey Schwartz for the fine job he always does.

The Senate Parliamentarian, Senator Peter Bales, needs to be recognized as well as always at the ready to offer the advice needed.

I hope that all senators working together can move the Academic Senate into the position we all want it to have as the policy making governing body of the College.

I thank all who have offered my advice and criticisms and support in my term of office and wish us all well as we move on with new leadership.