

**Steering Committee Report**

The Steering Committee met with the Senate committee chairs on Wednesday, October 1st to ensure everyone had reviewed the materials posted for their committees on the Governance website at: <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/committees.html>. Charges to each committee for the 2014-2015 Academic year were distributed and discussed. We reviewed procedures for posting materials on the website, and a special thank you goes to Dave Morretti for giving us all a tutorial on how to do that using the Cascade content management system.

The most important function of the Steering Committee is to support work of the Academic Senate committees. Toward that end, we are putting forward two resolutions for the full Senate to consider. The first involves the five year NEH grant Queensborough Community College was awarded in 2011. To improve the process of choosing the yearly presentations for the final two years of the grant, and provide for a better utilization of the Cultural and Archival Resources Committee (CAR), this resolution calls for the creation of a Special Committee to solicit proposals and make a recommendation to the CAR committee. This Special Committee will consist of the Chairs (or their designees) of the English, Social Sciences, History, Foreign Languages, and Art (History) — departments with the most obvious connections to the humanities — though it must be emphasized that anyone in our entire QCC community is eligible to apply.

There is a second resolution on the agenda this month involving the Pathways review committee that approves courses for inclusion in the Common Core. Every single CUNY college sends three representatives to cover the three subcommittees that are now broken down into 1) “English Composition,” “Creative Expression,” and “Individual and Society”, (2) “Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning,” “Life and Physical Sciences,” and “Scientific World”, and (3) “World Cultures and Global Issues” and “U.S. Experience in Its Diversity”. Previously, the three representatives were appointed by the Presidents, but the new Chancellor has requested that the appointees be submitted through College governance. The Steering Committee has thus crafted precise language that clearly states that the QCC

Academic Senate remains on the record as opposed to Pathways, but "in the spirit of cooperation" wishes to submit volunteers for this critically important committee. We feel this approach strikes the right balance in a delicate situation that currently finds the new Chancellor open to modification of certain components of Pathways. And we definitely don't believe the Academic Senate should surrender its jurisdiction in a task that for the foreseeable future will need to be completed every two years.

Professor Clara Wajngurt and her subcommittee of the Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Issues Committee are continuing the work of soliciting and then collating responses from various College constituencies in furtherance of the goal of developing a bullying policy for QCC. The work is extensive and anyone interested in pitching in to help, please let anyone in the Steering Committee know. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.