

**STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CUNY
MONTHLY REPORT
September 9, 2014**

All Senate committees have commenced the Fall 2014 semester at full strength. But our waiting list to fill the inevitable openings that occur during the academic year is nearly exhausted, so please encourage your constituents seeking college service to contact a member of the Steering Committee and we will forward their names to Dr. Cheryl Spencer, Chairperson of the Committee on Committees. Senate Committee reports from last year continue to be submitted at a good pace, and we would like to thank the committee chairs for the reports included as part of the September agenda.

Over the summer the Steering Committee approved on behalf of the entire Academic Senate, the awarding of an official Queensborough Community College associate degree, Class of 2014 to Mr. Alexander Phillips, age 90. He needed several course substitutions to meet requirements for an associate degree in Business. Fortunately, Mr. Phillips had additional credits, and the Business Department Chairperson approved substitutions to meet the business program requirements, as did the Chairperson of Speech Communication and Theatre Arts. The Steering Committee was pleased to support the Chairs and the Administration in this effort.

The Committee on Environment, Quality of Life and Disability Issues has formed a subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Clara Wajngurt of the Math Department, to create an anti-bullying/civility policy for our campus, present it to various constituencies for comment and revision, pass it through the parent committee and then present it to the Academic Senate Steering Committee in

preparation for its presentation to and (possible) passage by the full Academic Senate. An early draft of the policy has been created and will be vetted with the QCC Administration, Human Resources, PSC Chapter, FEC, Student Government Association, DC 37 local, and a yet to be formed committee of HEOs. Expect regular updates this upcoming Academic Year on how this effort is progressing. (A report on the work being done and a link to the latest draft of the proposed bullying policy is available on the Academic Senate homepage at <http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/news/Bullying.html>.)

The Administration's General Education Assessment Task Force that began its deliberations last June will be continuing its work this upcoming academic year. A representative of that committee will present progress reports to the Academic Senate at its regular monthly meetings. All policy recommendations will be presented to the full body for a vote.

As will begin the new academic year, please remind your colleagues that the QCC Academic Senate is the policymaking body of the College. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Steering Committee if you feel there are issues that need to be addressed; the Senate committees are structured to function in that regard. Also, please be reminded that any Senator who wishes to initiate discussion and/or a policy proposal for a vote by the full Senate has every right to do so, and the Steering Committee stands ready to offer procedural support.