

**Queensborough Community College, CUNY
Academic Senate**

To: Joel Kuszai, Secretary, Steering Committee of the Academic Senate

Fr: Emily S. Tai, Chair, Subcommittee on Food Insecurity

Date: May 2, 2017

Subject: Report of the Committee on Food Insecurity

As of this writing, the Resolution to create a standing Committee of the Academic Senate on Food Insecurity has been unanimously approved by members of the Committee on Bylaws. Should this resolution pass the Academic Senate, the Committee would continue to function as a Subcommittee of the Steering Committee of the Academic Senate until assigned membership by the Committee on Committees.

Faculty with an interest in serving on this committee (as new, or continuing members), should therefore contact Professor Tai at etai@qcc.cuny.edu in the interim.

We remind following schedule is being established for the Lucille A Bova Food Pantry for Spring, 2017 **through Friday, May 26, 2017:**

Mondays:

Dr. Amy Traver, 2-3 PM

Professor Elizabeth Di Giorgio 5-6 P.M.

Tuesdays

Dr. Sharon Ellerton, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Dr. Leah Anderst 4-5 PM

Wednesdays

Dr. Emily Tai available by appointment, etai@qcc.cuny.edu, between 2PM-5 PM, and 9 PM-11 PM

Thursdays

Professor John Gilleaudeau, 2-4 P.M.

Professor Peter Bales, 4-5 PM

Fridays

Dr. Susan Jacobowitz, 2-3 PM and by appointment

Dr. Annisa Moody, 3-4 PM

All student requests may also be sent to the new food pantry email address:

LucilleABovaFoodPantry@qcc.cuny.edu or to etai@qcc.cuny.edu

The Pantry is stocked with non-perishable foodstuffs, particularly canned vegetables, fruits, soups, and protein items (beans; tuna, chicken, ravioli), etc., with pop-open cans preferred; pasta and sauce; breakfast cereal; non-perishable soy and almond milk; healthy snacks (sunflower butter; peanut butter; seaweed, granola bars, applesauce); and personal hygiene items (toothpaste, soap, etc.). Our expanded hours during the Spring semester have allowed us to serve more students; as of this writing, we have been seeing approximately 20-40 students per week. Staff at the Single Stop Office, who refer many of these students, have indicated that the pantry is particularly helpful to students who need benefits, but fall slightly over the threshold of eligibility. Hardships discussed have included job loss; housing insecurity and homelessness; hardships related to undocumented status; injured/disabled/ unemployed parents; lack of expected funding, and malnutrition. Some students are taking things for themselves; others are trying to feed entire families. Additional items we have tried to stock include diapers, baby food, and baby formula.

The Subcommittee's Service-Learning Faculty Partners for the Spring, 2017 semester, are:

Dr. Lana Zinger (Health, Physical Education, and Dance)

Dr. Christine Mooney (Business)

Dr. Sharon Ellerton (Biology)

Professor Elizabeth Di Giorgio (Art and Design)

Professor Emily Tai (History)

Dr. Zinger's students have been promoting food pantry resources, and reviewing food pantry donations and removing expired cans. In addition, they participated in two events, promoting Health and Nutrition, this spring:

- The Wellness Festival on **Wednesday, April 5**, from noon- 2PM, at which Dr. Zinger's students will distribute information about the Food Pantry and proper nutrition;
- Healthy Living Day, scheduled for **Wednesday, May 3**, from noon-2 PM, at which faculty involved in the Subcommittee on Food Insecurity will be disseminating information on Food Insecurity

We would like to take this opportunity to extend special thanks to the many anonymous and named donors (listed below) who generously donated to our final “Spring Ahead” Food Drive of the Spring, 2017 semester:

President Diane Call

Vice-President Stephen Di Dio, Mr. David Moretti, and Mr. Tony Gamino, who were all extremely helpful in promoting our Spring Ahead Food Drive with electronic flyers and signage, and whose support for Dr. Zinger’s “Health of the Nation” Service-Learning project was also critical:

Vice-President Michel Hodge

Dr. Peter Bales, Chair, Steering Committee of the Academic Senate

Mr. Renald Pierre-Charles

Dr. Lana Zinger, Dr. Andrea Salis, Dr. Young Kim, and members of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Dance

Dr. Lana Zinger’s students in *Health of the Nation*:

Katherine Lopez

Farrah Khan

Nancia Cherry

Jian Ting Bai

Adrian Guerrero

Leeza A. Santos

Amandeep Rataul

Oyesho Agnes Ilaka

Hasena Alladin

Dr. Susan Jacobowitz, Dr. Leah Anderst, and faculty of the Department of English

Dr. Jiliani Warsi

Dr. Margot Edlin

Director Jeanne Galvin and the Faculty of Schmeller Library

Chair Kathleen Villani and Faculty and Staff of the Department of Business, especially faculty, advisors, and student members of:

The Vicki Kasomenakis Business Society;

The C.I.S. S.T.A.R.S &

The Business Academy

Faculty and Staff of the Department of Foreign Languages, who contributed generously in memory of our late colleague, Dr. Susana Alaiz-Losada

Dr. Trikartikaningsih Byas and the Muslim Student Association

Professor Marlon Moreno and the Affiliates of the American Chemical Society

Dr. Peter Novick and the members of the STEM Research Club,

Dr. Paris Svoronos and the members of the Chemistry Club,

Dr. Patricia Schneider and the members of the Biology Club

Dr. Mangala Tawde and the members of the Environmental Sustainability Club
Father Anthony Rosado and the members of the Newman Club (including Mr. Gamara-Muños, PTK Vice-President),
Mr. Simon Ulubabov and Ms. Isabel Hocevar and the members of the Health Club
Dr. Lawrence Bentley, Dr. Alexandra Tarasko, and the Nursing Students Association
Ms. Maria-Francesca Berrouet and the members of the Haitian Club
Denver Roopchansingh and the members of the Military and Student Veterans Club
Drs. Kimberly Riegel and Anuradha Srivastava the members of the Women in Science Club
Professor Maria Mercedes Franco and the members of SACNAS QCC
Dr. Jun Shin and the members of the Korean Club
Ms. Cynthia Puca and the College Discovery Club
Ms. Amawati Gonesh and her colleagues at Single Stop
Generous staff of the Office of the Bursar
Ms. Michele McLoughlin
Ms. Melissa Brito
Ms. Grace Magee and Queensborough's NYPIRG chapter
Ms. Gail Patterson and the faculty and students of the Health Related Sciences (HRS) Academy
Ms. Ellen Turner (Health Related Sciences Academy Administrative Assistant)
Faculty of the Department of Biology
Faculty of the Department of Social Sciences
Dr. Jonathan Cornick
Professor Elizabeth Di Giorgio
Dr. Nalini Sukhdeo
Dr. Dorith Brodbar
Dr. Annisa Moody
Dr. Christine Mooney, Caylin Mooney, James Mooney, and the members of Mr. Mooney's Youth Group
Mr. Jose Medrano
Dr. Philip Pecorino
Professor John Gilleaudeau
Dr. Amy Traver
Dr. Sharon Ellerton
Ms. Victoria O'Shea and the ASAP Club
Mr. Lawrence Nelson and the members of the Ally LBGTQ Club
Mr. Samuel Griffiths
Mr. Amir Moalemzadeh, Mr. Haris Khan, Ms. Razieh Arabi, and the Queensborough Student Association
Ms. Nicole Archie (PTK-member-at-large, who assisted at the Valentine's Day Fling, which collected over five bags of food for the pantry on February 16, 2017)
Ms. Julie Leong, Lambda Sigma PTK President

Ms. Xiaofang Yu

Mr. Daniel Gamarra-Muñoz, Lambda Sigma PTK Vice President

Ms. Gisella Snailer, Lambda Sigma PTK Senator

Ms. Jennifer Kary Arenas

Ms. Virginia Villadiego

Conclusion

As of this writing, eight CUNY campuses—the College of Staten Island; Brooklyn College; Lehman College; Bronx Community College; Guttman Community College; Hostos Community College; LaGuardia Community College; and Kingsborough Community College—have food pantries, with two more (at BMCC and City College) planned. Thus, this year’s activity marked Queensborough’s participation in an important initiative, launched on CUNY campuses to address a national problem. Over the course of its first year of operation, the Lucille A. Bova Food Pantry, at rough estimate, served over 500 students. Our partnership with Father Anthony and the Newman Center, which served hot meals to students four days weekly (Monday through Thursday, noon to 4 PM) added significantly to this outreach. While we have by no means “solved” the problem of Food Insecurity on campus, the Steering Committee of the Academic Senate would like to thank the many members of Queensborough’s community—Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students—who gave generously of their time and resources to raise student awareness concerning an issue of national importance, and who helped to address it at Queensborough Community College. We would particularly like to thank the members of the Faculty Executive Committee for their generous support of the Sub-Committee on Food Insecurity as a venture in shared governance.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. Tai

History/Vice-Chair, Steering Committee of the Academic Senate

May 1, 2017



Dr. Zinger’s “Health of the Nation” students distribute flyers and recipes at the Queensborough Wellness Fair in the Student Union on April 5, 2017, and collect donations for the Lucille A. Bova Food Pantry. Both the student-designed flyer and the recipe collection have been appended to this report.