

**Queensborough Community College Academic Senate Committee on Bylaws
Meeting**

September, 12, 2013 at 4:00 PM in S-214

Minutes

Members present: Antonella Ansani, Eva Goldhammer (Secretary), Stephen Hammel, Liza Larios (President's designee), Devin McKay, Tian Ren (Chair).

Quorum present: yes

The minutes of May 8th were approved.

Bylaws committee discussed a request to disband, which was made by the Committee on Ceremonial Occasions. The rationale is that there are no longer any ceremonial affairs which are the responsibility of the faculty. The prime ceremonial occasion is the graduation exercise, and that is handled by administration. This leaves the ceremonial occasions committee as a committee with no function.

There was discussion about pros and cons of disbanding this committee. QCC has increasing numbers of junior faculty. They have an obligation to provide service to the college. In fact, there are more faculty members interested in performing said service than there are available committee memberships. Without the committee on ceremonial occasions, there would be even fewer such opportunities.

Furthermore, it can be argued whether faculty members can have as much sense of pride or investment in the process of educating students if they have no role in the celebration of students' success.

The historical size of said committee was 7 members, with concrete preparatory functions pertaining to graduation. Several years ago, committee size was scaled down to 3 members. It was also diminished in function, being re-designed as an advisory or observing committee, only.

We need to ascertain whether faculty who sit on this committee feel that no function is being served by their participation, or whether administration prefers to handle these details without input from faculty.

This matter was tabled, by consensus, pending an invitation to Dr. P. Pecorino, chairman of the of the faculty senate, to make inquiries regarding the source of the impetus.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Eva Goldhammer, Secretary
Bylaws Committee
2013-2014