

Queensborough Community College
The City University of New York

MINUTES
of the October 12, 2010
Academic Senate

Interim President Diane Call called the second regularly scheduled meeting of the Academic Senate to order at 3:15 p.m.

I. Attendance:

The complete Senate roster is available at
http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/Governance/AcademicSenate/academic_senate_roster.asp

As determined from the attendance taken by the iclickers at the meeting, there were eleven absentees.

Bourbon, Anne Marie	Colalillo, Georgina	Cotty, Francis	Pace, Phyllis
Krac, Aaron	Reilly, Margaret	Tullio, Ann	Visoni, Gilmar
Wallach, Patrick	Yuster, Richard	Zinger, Lana	

II. Consideration of minutes of the September 21, 2010 meeting:

- A **motion** was **made, seconded, and approved** to approve the September minutes (*Attachment A of the October 12, 2010 Agenda*) with amendments highlighted by Dr. Blake-Campbell. There were forty-three positive votes and one abstention from Alan Gavrielof.

III. Communications from:

Interim President Call: Interim President Call welcomed everyone to the second regularly scheduled Academic Senate meeting of the year, and encouraged everyone to review the Minutes of the UFS.

- Interim President Call referred to her written report (*Attachment B of the October 12, 2010 Agenda*).
- Interim President Call began by thanking Vice President Hartigan for hosting the reception on September 26, 2010 to welcome Families of the New Students.
- Interim President Call also mentioned that the College has begun a new practice to host a ceremony, which was held in the Humanities Theatre on September 28, 2010 to celebrate the Spring 2010 Dean's List Recipients. Approximately 500 persons were in attendance. At this ceremony, Interim President Call recalled meeting a delightful 84-year old recipient .
- Interim President Call reminded everyone that the Fall Faculty meeting will be held on October 20, 2010 in M-136 at 1:00PM, and that Dept. Chairs and Governance representatives will present to our faculty criteria for tenure and promotion.

Academic Senate Agenda – November 9, 2010 – Attachment -A

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- Interim President Call also mentioned the presentations made by the Pedagogical Research Challenge recipients that took place a week ago. Interim President Call described the forum as interdisciplinary, collaborative and very informative.
- Interim President Call announced that the Enrollment Management team has begun to work on the schedule for advising and registering new students. Additionally, Advisement of the currently enrolled students for Spring 2011 is now in progress.
- Interim President Call indicated that she will be meeting with Vice Chancellor Alan Dobrin to discuss Queensborough's role as a vanguard college in the launching of the CUNY First. Detailed information is forthcoming.
- Interim President Call informed the Senate that QCC Foundation, alumni, friends of the college and current students have raised money to provide students scholarships. As a result of these efforts, fifty merit scholarships of \$500 each will be awarded in the Spring 2011 semester. These scholarships will be awarded to fulltime continuing degree students who by the end of the semester have completed 24 credits, (plus any remediation required) with a minimum of 3.25 GPA.
- Interim President Call reminded everyone that the Walk to Aspire event to raise funds for student scholarships will be held on Wednesday, November 17, 2010, and encouraged everyone to go out and support the teams.
- Interim President Call announced that CUNY has reached an agreement in principle to permit adjuncts to teach winter session classes at no consequence to their fall or spring workload.
- Interim President Call once again indicated that information sessions on the ERI will be conducted throughout the city this month, and that Ysabel Macea of the QCC Personnel Office has distributed the schedule which includes a session at Queens College on October 18, 2010. The deadline for faculty and HEO to file papers for the ERI is January 6, 2011.
- Interim President Call indicated that the news concerning the Budget remains dismal. The College will need to demonstrate how it will function with a cut of 2 million as part of the Program to eliminate the Gap. Interim President Call indicated that the College is mindful of its priorities, and that the College will begin Resource Allocation to be led by VP Newcomb.
- Interim President Call assured everyone that the College will have a balanced budget this year that the College remains committed to the initiatives that we pledged to support. The possibility exists that some adjustments will have to be made to OTPS (Other Than Personnel Services).

Academic Senate Agenda – November 9, 2010 – Attachment -A

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- Interim President Call apprised the Senate that the CPE, which was formerly used as a graduation requirement and to continue at the Senior level Colleges, is slated for cancellation. The University will be presenting the Board with a resolution to drop the CPE. Those students who are already scheduled to take the exam should go ahead and sit for the exam.
 - VP Karen Steele communicated that the Central office has affirmed that there are no plans discontinue with Writing in the Discipline/Writing Across the Curriculum WID/WAC initiative.
 - Interim President Call reiterated that the WID/WAC addresses the College's General Education objectives.
 - Student Government President Stephanie Sandson inquired about the decision to terminate the CPE, to which Interim President Call responded with a discussion about the original intent of the CPE and the reasons for its elimination, which included the \$5 million dollar cost to administer the CPE.
 - Chair Tai further extended the conversation by adding that students need to be able to have the required writing competencies when they graduate. Chair Tai also indicated that the Collegiate Learning Assessment is being examined as a tool to help benchmark QCC's achievement against other institutions, and as such may be considered as an alternative.
 - Parliamentarian, Dr. Pecorino raised a question as to whether the college was still on schedule for the launching of CUNY First. Additionally the Parliamentarian wanted to know at what point will the Campus not give faculty, staff access to students' or anyone else's social security numbers as currently is available through SIMMS. And when do we switch over, once that security concern has been addressed?
 - President Call assured Parliamentarian Phil Pecorino that a date has not yet been set, but that the College was positioned for the task to handle the transition, which underscores the reason why QCC was selected as a vanguard college.
 - A question from the floor was raised concerning hiring freeze, and if there was going to be a replacement ratio [7 out of 10] for faculty who will be accepting the ERI.
 - VP Newcomb assured the Senate that the freeze did not apply to faculty positions, and that no set formula for replacement has been set, and that replacement decisions would be contingent upon budget restraints.
 - Interim President Call invited Chair Tai to the floor.

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IV. Senate Steering Committee: Chair Tai referred to her written report (*Attachment C of the October 12, 2010 Agenda.*) focusing on some of the following:

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- Chair Tai acknowledged that discussions have already taken place about the CPE, and therefore proceeded to discuss the issue discussed at the UFS concerning the new “E-discovery” policy. Should there be a criminal or civil suit against staff or faculty, the University would have to capture everything that is contained on the employee’s computer. In consequence, faculty and staff are advised to remove any personal and confidential content from their office PC. Additionally, if staff members are engaged in research and the private and confidential information of the subjects are on their computers that should also be removed.
- Chair Tai shared that on November 1, 2010 a delegation will be meeting with the accreditors for the New Community College. Chair Tai will be included in this meeting. Questions will be raised as to how the curriculum of the New Community College fares against the traditional Community College. New innovative curriculum will be discussed with the accreditors, and the Steering Committee invites any input.
- Dr. Pecorino added that the Letter of Intent for four different programs indicates that if those students wished to transfer to the traditional Community Colleges they would not encounter any problems.
- Chair Tai informed the Senate about the Text Book Act, which was aimed at lowering textbook costs for students. The Central office is encouraging those who post syllabus on-line to include an ISBN to make it easier to procure access at a lower cost.
- Chair Tai also informed faculty that persons who solicit complimentary text books from faculty for resale are now in violation of Federal law. This may have implications for text book drives.
- Interim President Call inquired of the Student Representatives/Ms. Sandson as to who was the person who represents that University Student Senate. Ms. Sandson introduced herself as the President of Student Government, and indicated that she and her colleagues would be speaking for the students in the Academic senate.

V. Monthly Reports of Committees (*Attachments E of the October 12, 2010 Agenda*):

Committee on Bylaws (Attachment E) ---RESOLUTION

- Prof. Janice Molloy, Chair of the Committee on Bylaws presented the resolution, after which followed a very lively discussion.

A **motion was made, seconded, and approved** to amend the Bylaws (*Attachment E of the October 12, 2010*) Agenda as stated in Senate Bylaws Article VI, Section 1, removing item g, ending at f..The votes were thirty-seven positive votes, eleven negative votes from Senators Antonella Ansani, Stuart Asser, Melvin Gorelick, Pedro Irigoyen, Anthony Kolios, Kip

218 Montgomery, Haishen Yao, Reuvain Zahavy, and Vice-President Zins, and two abstentions from
219 Senators Diane Carey and Paul Weiss.

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222 **Committee on Committee (Attachment F)**

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226 **VI. Annual Reports of Academic Senate Standing Committees of the Academic Senate**

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229 **Subcommittee on CPE Appeals (Attachment G)** Accepted as Presented

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231 **Committee on Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Issues (Attachment H) –**

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Accepted as Presented

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234 **Committee on Vendor Services (Attachment I)** Accepted as Presented

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237 A motion was **made, seconded,** and **approved** to accept the Annual Reports of the Academic Senate
238 and the Standing Committees as presented (**ATTACHMENTS G, H, & I of the October 12, 2010 Agenda**).
239 There were forty-nine positive votes, one negative vote from Senator Melvin Gorelick and one abstention
240 from Senator Haishen Yao.

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242 **Old Business**

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- 244 • Dr. David Klarberg presented the following resolution
245 recommending a Senate Policy to ban smoking on the campus.

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247 **RESOLUTION**

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249 WHEREAS, The U.S. Surgeon General has stated that tobacco is
250 harmful to human health and there is no risk-free level of
251 secondhand smoke exposure , with even brief exposure adversely
252 affecting the cardiovascular and respiratory systems.

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254 WHEREAS, The U.S. Surgeon General concluded that smoke-
255 free workplace polices are the only effective way to eliminate
256 secondhand smoke exposure in the workplace.

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258 WHEREAS, Laboratory, clinical, and epidemiological research
259 and numerous publications have established conclusive evidence
260 regarding the dangers of smoking and secondhand smoke
261 exposure.

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263 The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Toxicology
264 Program and the International Agency for Research on Cancer has
designated secondhand smoke a known human carcinogen.

265 The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
266 has concluded that secondhand smoke is an occupational
267 carcinogen.
268 The National Toxicology Program estimates that at least 250
269 chemicals in secondhand smoke are known to be toxic or
270 carcinogenic.
271 More than 50 carcinogens in secondhand smoke are classified as
272 Group 1 carcinogens, including arsenic, cyanide, benzene,
273 cadmium, and radioactive polonium-210.
274 Secondhand smoke causes about 3,400 lung cancer deaths each
275 year in non-smoking adults in the U.S.
276 Secondhand smoke kills approximately 46,000 non-smokers from
277 heart disease each year in the United States.
278 Secondhand smoke exposure causes disease and premature death
279 in children and adults.
280 Secondhand smoke causes coughing, excessive mucus secretion,
281 chest discomfort and reduced lung function in non-smokers.
282 Exposure of adults to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse
283 effects on the cardiovascular system and causes heart disease and
284 lung cancer.
285 Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in the world
286 today.
287 The Institute of Medicine concludes that smoke-free laws reduce
288 the number of heart attacks and saves lives.
289 Brief exposures to secondhand smoke can induce heart attacks.
290 Nonsmoking workers exposed to secondhand smoke immediately
291 absorb potent carcinogens.
292 Secondhand smoke exposure is associated with harmful effects to
293 children, such as sudden infant death syndrome, exacerbation of
294 asthma, increased respiratory infections, increased ear infections
295 and impaired lung function.
296 Cigarette smoke is causally associated with 15 different cancers,
297 including lung, head and neck, stomach, pancreas, and cervical.
298 Tobacco accounts for 30% of all cancer deaths.
299 Smoking was responsible for one in five deaths in the U.S. in 2005.
300 Even small exposures to cigarette smoke can increase platelet
301 aggregation (leading to clots, which cause heart attacks and
302 strokes) and can induce arterial and hemodynamic changes.
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305 WHEREAS, CUNY's current policy was enacted via resolution
306 at the Board of Trustees meeting of September 1994.

307 WHEREAS, As the largest urban university in the country, The City
308 University is committed to promoting the health and well-being of
309 its faculty, students and staff; and

310 WHEREAS, The health hazards of tobacco use are well-
311 documented and directly linked to the death of an estimated
312 390,000 Americans a year; and

313 WHEREAS, Exposure to environmental tobacco smoke has been
314 associated with the occurrence of many diseases, such as lung
315 cancer and heart disease in nonsmokers and low birthrate in the
316 offspring of nonsmokers; and,

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318 WHEREAS, Environmental tobacco smoke represents one of the
319 strongest sources of indoor air contaminants in buildings where
320 smoking is permitted; therefore,

321 BE IT RESOLVED, That smoking is prohibited inside all facilities
322 owned, leased, or operated by the City University of New York,
323 effective January 1, 1995.

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325 EXPLANATION: This policy will further strengthen the current
326 Smoking Policy of the City University of New York, approved by
327 the Council of Presidents at its meeting of May 7, 1990, which
328 prohibited smoking in over ninety percent of the space in campus
329 buildings, including classrooms, auditoriums, elevators, hallways,
330 restrooms and other common areas. The significant health
331 hazards associated with tobacco smoke for both smokers and
332 non-smokers alike clearly indicates the necessity of creating a
333 University smoke-free environment.

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336 WHEREAS, Smoking is in the process of being banned in all
337 New York City Parks and athletic stadiums.

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339 WHEREAS, The City University is committed to promoting the
340 health and well-being of its faculty, students and staff;

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342 WHEREAS, QCC is committed to promoting the health and
343 well-being of its faculty, students and staff and does not support
344 or condone avoidable harms to the health of members of its
345 community,

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347 BE IT RESOLVED, that, it shall be the policy of QCC that there
348 be no smoking tobacco anywhere on the premises of the College.

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- There was a lively discussion of this measure, in which Ms. Sandson presented the reservations of students who were opposed to banning smoking and who expressed concerns about the difficulty many encountered observing the ban on smoking any closer than 25 feet to a campus building, while other senators spoke in favor of the measure.

A **motion** was **made, seconded, and approved** to ban smoking on campus. There were twenty-six positive votes, **twenty-five recorded by Clicker, and one verbal vote communicated** to the Steering Committee, nineteen negative votes from Senators Stuart Asser, Margot Edlin, Jonas Falik, Melvin Gorelick, Pedro Irigoyen, Shannon Kincaid, Anthony Kolios, Jeffrey Kurnit, Liza Larios, Jane Paulsen, Stephanie Sandson, Alina Gulfraz, Arnab Tarafder, Victoria Brown, Natalie Zorilla, Karen Steele, Emily Tai, Yao Haishen, and two abstentions from Interim President Call and Senator Alexandra Tarasko.

New Business

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30PM

Barbara Blake-Campbell
Secretary