

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The City University of New York

ACADEMIC SENATE

COMMITTEE ON BYLAWS

To: Dr. Joel Kuszai, Secretary, Academic Senate Steering Committee
From: Stephen W. Hammel, Esq., Chair, Committee on Bylaws
Subject: Changes to the Bylaws of the Academic Senate related to the removal of The
Committee on Ceremonial Occasions
Date: January 21, 2016

The Committee on Bylaws has meet, considered and voted to send the following bylaws changes to the Academic Senate for consideration;

The Steering Committee has respectfully requested the Bylaws Committee Re-Consider the removal of The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions as contained in the Bylaws of the Academic Senate, in Article VII, Section 15, and currently reads as follows:

Section 15. The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions

The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions shall consist of three (3) members of the instructional staff and one (1) student.

The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions shall:

- a. Be consulted on matters pertaining to ceremonial occasions.
- b. Report and recommend to the Academic Senate on matters pertaining to ceremonial occasions.

PRIOR HISTORY AND BASIS FOR RECOMENDATION:

WHEREAS the Academic Senate declined to adopt the prior recommendation of the Committee on Bylaws to eliminate the Committee on Ceremonial Occasions. Now the Bylaws Committee has been asked to reconsider the matter and has asked for its recommendation. The Bylaws Committee notes the following facts, to the best of its knowledge, prior to its recommendation;

- The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions currently remains empty of members.
- The Senate has not designated any official ceremonial occasions to said Committee.
- The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions has had neither members nor any charge for more than one year.
- The Bylaws of the Academic Senate require in part, pursuant to Article VII, Section 3, subpart b, that “Members of the Academic Senate standing committees shall function from the date of election until the first day of first day of the Fall Semester following their election.”
- The Bylaws of the Academic Senate, require pursuant to Article VII, Section 5, subpart a; “Vacancies on all committees other than the Committee on Committees shall be filled through appointment by the Committee on Committees for the unexpired term.”

WHEREAS this contradictory state does not provide genuine opportunities for faculty or students to serve the College, the Committee on Bylaws hereby restates it’s former recommendation to the Senate as follows:

THEREFORE, we recommend that the Senate vote to amend the eliminate said Committee on Ceremonial Occasions as listed in the Bylaws of the Academic Senate, in Article VII, Section 15.

WHEREAS the Bylaws Committee wishes to fully address this reconsideration; in the event that the above vote to eliminate the Committee on Ceremonial Occasions should again fail, we recommend;

THEREFORE, the Senate should immediately vote to designate at least one official ceremonial occasion, such as graduation or other significant event and thereafter promptly populate the membership of said Committee.

RATIONALE:

The Bylaws Committee believes that The Committee on Ceremonial Occasions, existing in its current unpopulated state with no members and no charges is inconsistent with the Bylaws of the Academic Senate, specifically, Article VII, Section 3, subpart b and Article VII, Section 5, subpart a.