

**Queensborough Community College, CUNY**  
**Report from the Environment, Quality of Life and Disability Issues Committee**  
**To the Academic Senate Steering Committee**

Date: March 1, 2019  
From: Sara Danzi Engoron, Chair  
Subject: Report on Recent Activities

The Committee on Environment, Quality of Life and Disabilities Issues would like to report progress on the following areas of concern:

Child care center: During the fall semester, the committee has been working on the feasibility of opening a child care center at QCC for student-parents. Extensive fact-finding has been done and shared with the committee. A draft resolution was provided to committee members at the last meeting, February 27, 2019. The draft resolution (attached) and the desire to proceed to the Academic Senate was approved unanimously by committee members.

Bathroom Signage: The committee met with William Faulkner, Vice President for Finance and Administration, and Alvin Su, the new Facilities Planning Director, regarding gender identity single sex restroom signage for all QCC campus restrooms. Signs are being produced and will be displayed on the outside of all restrooms within a few weeks of this report. Signs will be 4" x 4" with white lettering on black background and will say "UNDER THE LAW, ALL INDIVIDUALS HAVE THE RIGHT TO USE THIS SINGLE SEX FACILITY CONSISTENT WITH THEIR GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION."

Accessible bathrooms: The committee was updated by William Faulkner and Alvin Su regarding the conversion of a basement level bathroom in the Library to an accessible bathroom. It is available by elevator from any floor and signs will be posted on each floor to indicate the location of accessible bathroom. Conversion of all bathrooms to accessible is expected to be done in 2021.

Fire doors and accessibility: Currently fire doors in the Science and Humanities buildings are not tied into the fire alarm system. Therefore, they remain closed and provide an obstruction for some individuals with disabilities. These two buildings are being considered for upgrading to automatic door access.

**Queensborough Community College, CUNY  
Academic Senate Standing Committee  
on the Environment, Quality of Life and Disability Issues**

To: Jannette Urciuoli, Secretary, Academic Senate Steering Committee  
From: Sara Danzi-Engoron, Chair, Committee on the Environment, Quality of Life and Disability Issues  
Date: February 27, 2019  
Subject: Resolution on creating a child-care center at QCC

After months of research and discussion, the below resolution, which seeks to make a childcare center at QCC a college priority, was approved by Committee on the Environment, Quality of Life and Disability Issues at its February 27, 2019 meeting. We now send it forward for approval by the Academic Senate at the March 12, 2019 meeting. Chair Danzi-Engoron wishes to thank committee member Dr. Noelia Diaz for her hard work on this issue.

**Resolution on creating a child-care center at QCC for the children of students**

WHEREAS, In the 2012-2016 Master Plan, CUNY reported that 14% of all students at that time were also parents; and

WHEREAS, There are many students at QCC who would benefit from a child-care center on campus; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that having campus-based child-care available to students increases retention; and

WHEREAS, 17 CUNY campuses have child-care centers for children of students, including 11 of 11 senior colleges, the Graduate Center and all of the community colleges except for Guttman and QCC; and

WHEREAS, In a 2018 report, “The Missing Piece: Strengthening CUNY’s Child Care Infrastructure,” Public Advocate Letitia James identified the need for improving support for student-parents and makes recommendations for supporting them at CUNY with increased city, state and federal funding; and

WHEREAS, James’ report states that 53% of community college students report incomes of less than \$20,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, On February 21, 2019, Governor Cuomo announced the “[Family Empowerment Community College Pilot Program](#),” which seeks to support student-parents achieve success as part his 2019 Women’s Justice Agenda; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Queensborough Community College shall pursue an on-site child-care center for use by student-parents, consistent with other CUNY units and with CUNY policy.