

**STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CUNY**

MONTHLY REPORT

May 10, 2016

All Senate committees are fully staffed and functioning smoothly. The Steering Committee met with all the Senate committee chairs on April 20th and discussed numerous issues including formatting for committee reports and resolutions, making changes to the Senate's web pages, procedures for electing new committee chairs, and the submission of annual reports. In addition, we would like to welcome all newly elected senators: Joanne Chang, Margot Edlin, Urszula Golebiewska, Mi-Seon Kim, Craig Weber and Peter Irigoyen from English, who joins his father Pedro from Chemistry in representing the CLTs.

Elections for positions on the Academic Senate Steering Committee will be conducted at this afternoon's meeting.

The Steering Committee would like to thank Vice President Faulkner and all the members of the Technology Plan Committee for their efforts in preparing the 2016-2020 Technology Plan. The plan was included in your agenda materials and the Steering Committee has placed it on today's agenda for approval by the full Senate.

The Steering Committee in support of Queensborough's Lambda Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, acting in concert with co-sponsoring Student Association Clubs, and the Subcommittee on Food Insecurity of the Academic Senate, would like to invite you to consider contributing non-perishable foods to a Food Drive to stock a new food pantry we will shortly be inaugurating at Queensborough Community College. Immediately after today's Senate meeting there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the *Lucille A. Bova Food Pantry* on the second floor of the Library building. All are invited to attend.

At the April meeting of the Senate, a motion was made, seconded, and approved 54-3-2 to have the Steering Committee draft language for a communication to Chancellor Milliken about the Common Core Review Committee (CCRC) process for creating subcommittees. That letter, which appears below, is submitted for Senate approval. Steering Committee members will all sign the letter and any Senator who wishes to add their signature is welcome to do so.

We, the undersigned, are writing about the selection process for members of the CUNY Common Core Curriculum Committee (CCRC). Your email of February 18, 2016 to our provost stated that "faculty members who serve on the CCRC are now chosen through the college governance process." On October 14, 2014, our Academic Senate elected one member each to the three proposed CCRC subcommittees. At our Senate meeting of March 8, 2016, we did likewise and elected one member each to serve on what are now two proposed CCRC subcommittees. At that meeting, the Senate noted your request for three names for each of the two subcommittees, but it did not feel that a need to "balance the disciplines" was a compelling reason and rejected that premise.

Subsequently, you asked our Provost to request that the Senate reconsider its position. At our meeting on April 11, 2016, the Senate did so and, recognizing the need for Queensborough Community College to be represented on these important CCRC subcommittees, voted to send three names from separate disciplines forward for both subcommittees.

Please be advised that in future requests for University-wide committees, the QCC Academic Senate would like to be on the record as favoring increased discretion for shared governance, i.e., a request for an exact number of members on a given committee rather than a larger number to be winnowed by the CUNY Administration.

Sincerely,

Recently, the University Faculty Senate (UFS) passed a resolution affirming the principles of the Chicago Statement on freedom of expression (formally, the Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression at the University of Chicago). The UFS has requested that all College Senates in CUNY follow suit. It is hoped that the two task forces created by Chancellor Milliken—one on expressive activities and another on civility—will take the UFS and individual College Senates' support of the Chicago Statement into account when crafting their policies. The Steering Committee will present a resolution to that effect this afternoon.

The Steering Committee would like to express their appreciation to Provost Marchese and all the members of the Mission Statement Committee for their work in creating a new mission statement for Queensborough Community College. The Senate is asked to approve the following:

Queensborough Community College is dedicated to academic excellence and rigor, and to providing an affordable high quality education to college, pre-college and lifelong learners. Our faculty and staff are committed to the holistic development of today's students in a nurturing and diverse environment that prepares them to be successful in a dynamic workforce. The College affirms its open admissions policy, and its strong support of intellectual inquiry, global awareness, civic responsibility, as well as cultural and artistic appreciation.