

FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW
YORK

Remote Meeting of April 27, 2021
Minutes

Present: Margot Edlin (Chair), Edmund Clingan, Beth Counihan, Marvin Gayle, Phil Pecorino, Ted Rosen, Julia Rothenberg.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

1. The **agenda** as amended was approved without objection.
2. The **minutes** of March 23 were approved without objection.

3. Treasurer's Report

We have a balance of \$1,192.51 in the checking account and \$5,905.13 in the Money Market account for a sum total of \$7,097.64.

Pecorino was reimbursed for Election Buddy expenses and Gayle for Survey Monkey expenses.

4. Chair's Report

a. EMAG has not met for weeks. Maybe the President should wrap up the year at a public meeting. She might also do a special meeting for the staff only.

b. Recognition to newly-tenured faculty.

Counihan has finished this and sent an e-mail to VP DiDio. DiDio and the President say they are waiting for Dean Larios to give them the list. Counihan feels that at the least, the President should send out a general announcement by e-mail.

c. Governance Plan

The Senate Steering Committee wanted more HEO reps; the Committee has adjusted the amendment and sent it to the President. The President will come to the May meeting with Louis Florman and Liza Larios. Pecorino notes that the President can object on the Governance Plan but not on By-Laws changes.

The Chair says that we can ask at that meeting about what the College is planning for the Celebration of service.

d. Academic Review Committee

VP Lynch received the request “warmly” and forwarded it to the Committee.

e. Academic Freedom Committee

It has been discussing the question of mandating training for online instruction without compensation. All FEC members are *ex officio* members of the AF Committee. Lynch told the Chair he would mandate this, but the Chair objected because there are myriad obstacles. Pecorino noted that this violates the Chairs’ power under the CUNY By-Laws. Clingan sees it as a violation of the labor contract by demanding uncompensated labor beyond regular duties.

In the course of the discussion, it was also noted that departments carried out student evaluations for all sections without informing the instructors. It has always been practice that instructors of a certain rank must request opting in to evaluations. HR may have sent out a memo two days before Thanksgiving but it still breaks precedent. Apparently this has been the practice at Hostos and the English Dept Chair suggested that student evaluations would be linked to approval of fellowship leaves.

f. Virtual Gala June 3, 2021

The FEC gave the QCC Fund \$750 last year for an event canceled because of the emergency. Two proposals were made:

(Pecorino-Clingan) Apply \$500 of the money given for a “Gold Page Ad” and hold the rest.

(Rosen) Add another \$500.

The vote was 4 in favor of the Rose proposal, 3 in favor of the Pecorino-Clingan proposal. The Rosen proposal was approved.

5. Guide for ARC on Due Process

Pecorino says ARC can use it even before a By-Law is passed.

(Rosen-Pecorino) The FEC should prepare that guide and meet with ARC to discuss it.

(Rosen-Clingan) Postpone the question until the next FEC meeting.

The Committee agreed by 7-0 to postpone the motion.

6. Complaints about Faculty Conduct

Following up discussion at the March meeting, the Parliamentarian should renew contact with CUNY legal affairs, purely to consult that this does not violate a specific part of CUNY By-Laws. Rosen was uncomfortable with this and wanted to get approval from the QCC administration. Considerable discussion followed. This has been sitting for almost six years and now has some urgency because the administration is using disciplinary charges to force out

senior faculty.

7. Different roles of FEC members

Pecorino will send a request for 8 hours of reassigned time as described previously

8. New Business

Clingan notes the latest decisions of the College P & B Committee on promotion to full professor. In at least one case, an old problem resurfaced. Faculty hired before the presidency of Eduardo Martí (2001) received instructions on what they needed to accomplish to gain tenure, promotion to Associate, and the promotion to full Professor. Beginning with the Martí administration, the expectations for publishing and scholarship became much greater and indeed much greater than the other community colleges. A group of Associate Professors are trapped under the system and don't have the time or money or perhaps are out of practice. At least one faculty member won his promotion on a grievance using this basis.

Pecorino and the FEC persuaded President Call to establish "Presidential Fellowships" to give reassigned time to faculty in this group to help them. Unfortunately, the Fellows were misused and abused for inappropriate purposes and the program dissolved. Perhaps it is time to revisit this.

The Committee adjourned at 5:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Edmund Clingan,
Secretary