

LaGuardia Community College  
**Minutes of the College Senate Meeting**  
October 22, 2014  
E242

**Present and Voting:**

Shakil Ahmed (Student), Moksheda Akter (Student), Claudia Baldonado (Adult and Continuing Education), Loretta Capuano-Vella (At-Large Instructional), Liang Chen (Student), John Clappin (At-Large Adjunct), Francine Egger-Sider (Faculty Council Seat), Monika Ekiert (Education and Language Acquisition), Hugo Fernandez (Humanities), Ana Lucia Fuentes (Natural Sciences), Sakib Geshan (Student), Natalie Havlin (English), David Housel (Adult and continuing Education)\*, Rosann Ippolito (At-Large Instructional), André Keeton (Social Science), Charles Keyes (Library), Imani Kibler (Student), Mahdi Majidi-Zolbanin (Mathematics, Engineering, and Computer Science), Caroline Mendez (Non-Instructional Staff), Kevin Nunez (Student), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Arlene Peterson (President's Office), Michael Philogene (Business & Technology), Feng Reng (Student), Eneida Rivas (Institutional Advancement), Suzanne Rosenberg (Health Science), William Rosenthal (At-Large Instructional), Nancy Santangelo (At-Large Instructional Staff), Noam Scheindlin (English), Patricia Sokolski (Academic Affairs), Laverne Summers (Student), Anika Tasnim (Student), Lynne Teplin (Counseling), Tiancheng Zhou (Student), Jenny Zhu (Information Technology)

\*voted after regular member's departure

**Guest Members:**

Jerry Ianni, Parliamentarian

Meeting called to order at 2:45p.m. by Charles Keyes, Chairperson

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 MEETING**

Senator Francine Egger-Sider made motion to approve minutes with revisions; 2nd by Senator Lynn Teplin:

- (i) Yea-30; No-0; Abstention-0**
- (ii) MINUTES APPROVED w/Revisions**

**II. Dean Ann Feibel-CUNY Common Core Review Committee**

- a. Dean Ann Feibel presented on the procedure by which the Common Core Review Committee (CCRC) is composed. She reiterated the role of the governance structure in composing the committee and made clear that proper procedure dictates that CCRC nominees should be vetted by the Senate.
- b. Dean Feibel indicated that the College Wide Curriculum Committee (CWCC) had approved the nominees without objection. The approved committee members will serve for 2 yrs.
- c. Members of the Committee will be compensated with 1 course of release time.

Senator Rosann Ippolito made motion to approve nominees; 2nd by Senator John Clappin:

**(i) Yea-29; No-0; Abstention-2**

**(ii) CCRC nominees approved**

### **III. SUB-COMMITTEE ON STUDENT TRANSFER-TRANSFER REPORT Sub-Committee Chair-Justin Rogers-Cooper**

- a. Sub-Committee Chair Justin Rogers Cooper briefly presented the findings of the Student Transfer Committee.
- b. Among the many findings of the committee\*\*:
  - i. Though the college has been successful in limiting the number of un-needed courses students take, there remains a great deal of work to be done to address the issue of students taking more courses than they need.
  - ii. Students transferring to four year colleges, even within CUNY, lose a great number of credits.
  - iii. Student credit card debt is prohibitive to AA degree completion, transfer, and 4-year degree completion.
  - iv. Tuition increases are prohibitive to AA degree completion, transfer, and 4-year degree completion.
  - v. The transfer office services from 600-800 students per month and over 8,000/yr. However, with just 3 employees, the office is understaffed and under-resourced.

*The Senate extends great thanks and gratitude to the Sub-Committee on Student Transfer. The Senate would especially like to thank the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee for Student Transfer, Justin Rogers-Cooper. His leadership in guiding the committee in the completion of the very comprehensive final report on student transfer is appreciated. The report will provide a very helpful template to the college in addressing the many issues affecting student transfer going forward.*

### **IV. ELECTION-EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Jerry Ianni, Senate Parliamentarian, conducted the officer elections and explained the process to the membership. 7 members are to be elected. Each must be approved by a minimum of 19 votes.

#### **i) ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

- (a) Charles Keyes was nominated for the position of Chairperson. Nominations were closed by unanimous consent.

**Charles Keyes was re-elected Chairperson by unanimous consent.**

ii) ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

CANDIDATES: Patricia Sokolski and Laverne Summers were nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

- (a) Patricia Sokolski (Academic Affairs)
- (b) Laverne Summers (Student Senator)

Each candidate was allowed two minutes to speak to address the membership.

**1<sup>st</sup> Ballot:**

- (b) Patricia Sokolski (Academic Affairs)-24
- (c) Laverne Summers (Student Senator)-9

**Patricia Sokolski was re-elected Vice-Chairperson.**

ii) ELECTION OF SECRETARY

- (a) André Keeton was nominated for the position of Secretary. Nominations were closed by unanimous consent.

**André Keeton was re-elected Secretary by unanimous consent.**

iii) ELECTION OF AT-LARGE NON-STUDENT

CANDIDATES: Eneida Rivas, Anthony Pappas, Hugo Fernandez

- (a) Eneida Rivas (Institutional Advancement)
- (b) Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association)
- (c) Hugo Fernandez (Humanities)

Each candidate was allowed two minutes to speak to address the membership.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Ballot:**

- (a) Hugo Fernandez (Humanities)-25
- (b) Eneida Rivas (Institutional Advancement)-21
- (c) Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association)-9

**Hugo Fernandez was elected and Eneida Rivas was re-elected At-Large, Non-Student.**

iv) ELECTION OF AT-LARGE STUDENT

CANDIDATES: Laverne Summers, Moksheda Akter, Kevin Nunez

- (a) Kevin Nunez
- (b) Laverne Summers
- (c) Moksheda Akter

**3<sup>rd</sup> Ballot:**

- (a) Kevin Nunez-22
- (b) Laverne Summers-18
- (c) Moksheda Akter-18

**Kevin Nunez was elected At-Large Student**

**4<sup>th</sup> Ballot:**

- (a) Laverne Summers-17
- (b) Moksheda Akter-14

**5<sup>th</sup> Ballot:**

- (a) Laverne Summers-17
- (b) Moksheda Akter-14

**Election for 2<sup>nd</sup> At-Large Student suspended.**

**V. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- I. Senator Monika Eikert made motion to approve items passed by CWCC on May 22, 2014, September 16, 2014 and October 2, 2014); 2nd by Senator Lynn Teplin:

**(i) Yea-30; No-0; Abstention-0**

**(ii) CURRICULUM ITEMS-APPROVED**

**VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

a. Chairperson Keyes:

- i. Thanked the Election Committee for their hardwork.
- ii. Impressed upon the members of the Senate the need to become involved in the sub-committees of the Senate. The Chair reiterated that the Senate is a body of committees and that these bodies must be active.
- iii. Impressed upon the membership the need to improve communications between the Senate and individual departments.

- iv. Clarified that the Senate's standing budget will be addressed by the Executive Committee.
- v. Suggested that the Senate hold a town-hall meeting for students with a goal of hearing and addressing student issues.
- vi. Impressed upon the Senate the need for student senator mentorship in governance.
- vii. Proposed the reconstitution of the Committee of Students as an active standing sub-committee of the Senate composed of student senators.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) none

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Senator Francine Egger-Sider reminded the membership of the Library renovation commencing Nov. 3, 2014.
- b) Senator André Keeton spoke to the membership concerning the increased incidents within his department of students exhibiting mental health issues. He suggested to the Senate that the members poll their own departments, and return to the body any anecdotal findings of similar incidents. Following this, the Senate Executive Committee will consider requesting the presence of those departments charged with delivering health/mental health/wellness to the campus to be better educated on the issue. The issue was tabled until the Nov. 12, meeting.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Senator Caroline Mendez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Senator Eneida Rivas.

Senate Adjourned 5:05p

Respectfully submitted,



André Keeton  
College Senate Secretary &  
Senator, Social Science Department