

**LaGuardia Community College
Minutes for the College Senate**

Meeting: Sept 16, 2020
(Zoom Meeting) 2:15-4:30pm

Present and Voting

Allie Brashears (Natural Sciences), Cristy Bruns (English), Jean Buckley-Lockhart (Counseling), Cindy Busch (Div. Institutional Advancement), Fay Butler (Student Affairs), Loretta Capuano Vela (At-Large Instructional Staff), Erika Correa (Adult & Continuing Education), Maritsa Pristos (Adult & Continuing Education), Liena Vayzman (Humanities) , Dianne Gordon Conyers (Library), Jill Kehoe (Social Sciences), Douglas DiCarlo (At Large Instructional), Cheryl McKenzie (At-Large Instructional Staff), Leonore McShane (Non instructional Staff), Marina Nechayeva (Math, Engineering and Computer Science), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Eneida Rivas (At-Large Instructional Staff), Tara Scales (Health Sciences), Leslie Scamacca (Business and Tech.), Patricia Sokolski (Academic Affairs).

At-Large Student Members Present and Voting

Hande Erkan, Shoma Nahar

Present Non-Voting

Alexandra Rojas, Chris McHale, Tara Coleman, Dione Miller

Guests and Visitors (non-voting)

President Kenneth Adams, Henry Saltiel, Charles Elias

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:20pm by Chairperson Sokolski.

II. Approval of Minutes of May 27, 2020

A motion to approve the minutes from May 27, 2020 was made. Hearing no objection the minutes were approved.

III. Invitation of Henry Saltiel and Charles Elias from Information Technology

Chairperson Solkolski welcomed Henry Saltiel and Charles Elias from IT. A PowerPoint presentation, outlining digital tools and support services currently available to LaGuardia faculty, staff and students was presented. Charles Elias explained that the presentation would be made available to Senators via email and the college community through the various LaGuardia Portals in the near future.

After the presentation the floor was opened up for questions. Senator Bruns asked about faculty involvement in decisions about new technology. Both Charles Elias and Henry Saltiel expressed interest in that dialogue and suggested Dean Hoffman as a possible conduit for these suggestions. Tara Coleman and Chairperson Sokolski supported this idea and suggested a new committee to help with this.

Senator Scales asked about access to Everbridge for students without devices. Charles noted this need and will promote alternate modes of filling out the COVID health questionnaire for returning students.

Chairs Report

Chairperson Sokolski reminded all Senators to tell their constituents about the upcoming elections. She expressed that At-Large Senators were needed. She also reported that there were currently 22 candidates for the available Student Senator seats.

Chairperson Sokolski updated members that she had received word that the Chair of the Faculty Council and Chair of the Senate would be invited into the President Adams' new cabinet. She commended the Senate for its role in the shared governance at the College under President Adams. She expressed that now is the time to think about making new goals for the Senate under the new administration.

IV. Invitation of President Kenneth Adams

Chairperson Sokolski welcomed President Adams and offered a brief orientation and introduction to the College Senate. The President addressed the Senate remarking that he was open to attending future meetings in order to clarify and report on College topics in a transparent way.

V. Committee Reports

a. Committee of Committees (Will Fulton, Chair)

Nothing to report

b. Curriculum Committee (Debra Engel, Chair)

Sent Annual Report in May. Nothing to report.

c. The Academic Standing Committee (Alexandra Rojas, Chair)

Alexandra Rojas reported that the first meeting for quarter is Oct 05 2020 and that the committee is working on their membership.

d. Committee on Campus Affairs (Eneida Rivas, Chair)

Nothing to Report.

e. The Committee of Faculty (Leslie Scamacca, Chair)

Chairperson Scamacca reported that a meeting would be held after today's Senate meeting.

f. The Committee on Professional Development (Christopher McHale and Deborah McMillan-Coddington, Co-Chairs).

Chris McHale reported that opening sessions went well. 589 people sign into the Jam. Wendy Nicolson and Tameka Battle did an excellent job. Their collaboration will likely promote future staff-faculty Co-chair pairings in this event moving forward.

g. The Budget and Finance Committee (Fay Butler, Chair)
Nothing to report.

h. The Committee of HEO/Alumni/Civil Service (Evelyn Lowmark and Cindy Busch, Co-Chairs).

Senator Busch reported that the employee survey is finished and it is online. She alerted all staff members that they should have received the survey via email. This survey will be open through next week.

The Committee of Students (Casey Larson, Chair)
Nothing to report.

i. The Committee on Elections (Seurette Bazalais, Chair)
This committee reported that it was sending out emails and reached out to divisions into to recruit for elections.

j. The Executive Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Chair)
Senator Sokolski reported that the Executive Committee is formulating how it wants to move forward including its in resolution-making at this time.

k. The Committee on Transfer (Ana-Lucia Fuentes, Chair)
Nothing to report.

l. Ad Hoc Committee on Food insecurity (William Kurzyna and Nicolle Fernandes, Co Chairs)
Nothing to report.

VI. Revisions to the Governance Plan

Senator Scamacca, who chairs the committee for the governance plan revision, gave the schedule of meetings for the committee and reviewed the plan of action to move ahead with the revisions. Senator Scamacca mentioned that for Article V on the powers and duties of the standing committees, she will ask the members of each committee to review the description of their committee and suggest changes in order to align the description with the current practice. Article VIII on Personnel and Budget will be discussed in a separate meeting. There was a discussion about Article III –Section IV about term limits which couldn't be completed as Senator Scamacca lost her internet connection.

VII. Unfinished Business

None.

VIII. New Business

None

IX. Announcements

None

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Senator Rivas. This was seconded by Senator Butler. All senators were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Oct 07, 2020.