

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

Meeting: Oct 28, 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), Maria Cook (Legal Affairs), Erika Correa (Adult & Continuing Education), Maritsa Pristos (Adult & Continuing Education), Dana Trusso (Humanities), Sumanth Inikonda (Humanities), Thomas Gleizner (Business and Tech.), Dianne Gordon Conyers (Library), Carlos Freire (Marketing and Comm.), Jayashree Kamble (English) Jill Kehoe (Social Sciences), Crystal Franklyn (Legal Affairs), Theresia Litvay-Sardou (Network Management), Sandra Sze (Math, Engineering and Computer Science), Bukurie Gioci (Math, Engineering and Computer Science), Douglas DiCarlo (At Large Instructional), Cheryl McKenzie (At-Large Instructional Staff), Evelyn Lowmark (Support Services), Margaret O'Sullivan (Registrar), Rochell Isaac (English), Leonore McShane (Non-instructional Staff), Marina Nechayeva (Math, Engineering and Computer Science), Faith Armstrong, Rebekah Johnson (ELA), Maritza Pristos (ACE), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Eneida Rivas (At-Large Instructional Staff), Tara Scales (Health Sciences), Leslie Scamacca (Business and Tech.), Patricia Sokolski (Academic Affairs) Charis Victory (Student Affairs).

**At-Large Student Members Present and Voting**

Shawn Blackmon, Omar Youssef, Justin Rodriguez, Joonyoung Hur, Ariana Villanueva, Eva Espinoza, Yasmeen Qureshi, Shoma Nahar, Kerlin Cheng, Victoria Boulin, Efran Ahmad.

**Present Non-Voting**

Alexandra Rojas, Chris McHale, Debra Engel, Hugo Fernandez

**Guests and Visitors (non-voting)**

President Kenneth Adams, Robert Jaffe

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:17 pm by Chairperson Sokolski.

**II. Approval of Minutes of Oct 08, 2020**

Chairperson Sokolski asked if there were any modifications to the Oct 07, 2020 minutes. Hearing no suggested modifications, the minutes were approved.

**III. Report of Curriculum Committee ELA Consent Calendar item internet vote from 10/20/2020 and Vote on Curriculum Committee Consent Calendar Items from 10/08/20 and 10/15/20.** <sup>[11]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

Report on email vote of ELA consent calendar items from 10/15/20.

The Senate Executive Committee met online to initiate an online vote for the ELA curriculum consent item from 10/15/20. Senator Rivas moved (online via email) to approve the ELA Tesol curriculum and Senator Bruns seconded this motion. Approval of this curriculum item was then sent to the senate body online with the associated documentation for review. The vote was conducted on 10/20/20. **Vote: 29-YES, 0 -NO, 0 -ABSTAIN.**

The motion to approve the ELA curriculum was passed.

A motion to approve the curriculum committee consent calendar items from 10/08/20 and 10/15/20 was made by Senator Rivas. This was seconded by Senator Butler. **Vote: Aye-30, Abstain-0, No-0.** The Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from 10/08/20 and 10/15/20 were approved.

#### **IV. Chairs Report**

Chairperson Sokolski reported on the achievements of the Senate over the last year. She expressed that Senate Committees were strengthened and that the Senate now holds an invitation to Executive Council meetings. She also commented on the fact that the Senate has become one body, made up of staff, students and faculty. Student mentoring has also helped with cohesion of the student faction.

Chairperson Solkolski suggested the next steps for the body. She emphasized that passing resolutions should be a priority. She also strategized that perhaps the future Senate might want to be more proactive, placing itself where decisions and policies are made. She remarked that President Adams seems open to Senate inclusion in decision-making. She encourages all members to have the Senate “hat” on in all committees.

#### **V. Senate Committee Elections**

Senate Executive Elections were conducted via online Zoom polls by Chairperson Sokolski and guided by Senator Scamacca as Senate Parliamentarian. A recording of the meeting was started for the elections and the polling process was described to the body. Private nomination instructions were also given to the group.

##### **Position of Senate Chair (Zoom Poll 1)**

Cristy Bruns was nominated for the position of Senate Chair by Senator Scamacca. This was seconded by Senator Butler. Senator Bruns accepted. Hearing no other nominations the nominations were closed. Results of Zoom Poll 1: **Yes: 33 votes** (number of eligible voters was 32).

##### **Position of Senate Vice Chair (Zoom Poll 2)**

Leslie Scamacca was nominated for the position of Senate Vice Chair by Cristy Bruns. Senator Butler seconded this nomination. Senator Scamacca accepted. Hearing no other nominations the nominations were closed. Results of Zoom Poll 2: **Yes: 32 votes** (number of eligible voters 32).

Position of **Senate Secretary** (Zoom Poll 3)

Jill Kehoe was nominated for the position of Senate Secretary by Senator Sokolski. Hearing no other nominations the nominations were closed. Results of Zoom Poll 3: **Yes: 32 votes** (32 eligible voters).

2 Positions of **At-Large Senator- Executive Committee** (Zoom Poll 4)

Fay Butler was nominated for the position of At-Large Executive Committee Senator by Senator Gordon-Conyers. She accepted. Eneida Rivas nominated herself and she also accepted. Hearing no other nominations the nominations were closed.

Results of Poll 4: Fay Butler, **Yes-28 votes** (32 eligible voters). Eneida Rivas **Yes-29 Votes** (32 eligible voters).

2 Positions of **Student Senators- Executive Committee** (Zoom Poll 5)

Student Senator Eva Espinoza nominated herself and accepted. Student Senator William (Joonyoung) Hur nominated himself and accepted. Both students made introductions to the group. Results of Poll 5: Eva Espinoza, **Yes-30 votes** (31 eligible voters). William Hur, **Yes-28 votes** (31 eligible voters).

## VI. Committee Reports

a. Committee on Committees

Nothing to report.

b. Curriculum Committee (Debra Engel, Chair)

Consent calendar items submitted as an agenda item.

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

Alexandra Rojas reported that the Academic Standing Committee had a workshop on academic appeals. She also reported that Provost Arcario has asked that they do a presentation at the upcoming Instructional Staff Meeting.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Senator Scamacca reported that a meeting was scheduled for today, in conjunction with Faculty Council, to meet with Provost Arcario to address faculty concerns.

f. The Committee on Professional Development

Nothing to report.

g. The Budget and Finance Committee (Fay Butler, Chair)

Senator Butler reported that the committee will be meeting with Shahir Erfan next week. They will be making a report after this meeting.

h. The Committee of HEO/Alumni/Civil Service (Eneida Rivas, Chair and Erica Correa, Co-Chair)

Senator Rivas reported that they were concentrating on generating as much participation as possible for the employee satisfaction survey. She reported that at this point there has been a 47% overall staff response rate to the survey. It seems that many of the surveys seem to have gone into junk mail. This committee is reaching out to divisions to improve survey response.

i. The Committee of Students

It was reported that Justin Rodriguez was elected Chair of this Committee. Nothing further to report.

j. The Committee on Elections

Nothing to report

k. The Executive Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Chair)

Meetings with the new Executive Committee are forthcoming.

l. The Committee on Transfer

Jayashree Kamble spoke about visiting department meetings in order to inviting feedback on the transfer process.

m. Ad Hoc Committee on Food Insecurity (Nicole Fernandez, Rebekah Johnson Co-chairs)

An invitation to join the Committee was made by Senator Johnson. She reported that the next meeting is on Friday October 30,2020. She also reported that on Nov 19, 2020 the Committee will be holding an event from 2-3:30pm in concert with SGA. Alternate Senator Freire expressed his interest in joining the Committee.

n. University Faculty Senate (UFS)

Hugo Fernandez presented on the UFS plenary meeting that took place last night (Oct 27, 2020). He reported that the Executive Vice-Chancellor of Finance presented on how *Cares* money will be distributed. He also reported that there was a great deal of concern about financials and the statistic that community college enrollment is down 60% overall.

## VII. Unfinished Business

None.

## VIII. New Business

Senator McShane reported that LaGuardia Community College was selected as an election early-voting site. She expressed concerns about this and the impact it is having on the reopening plan. She also expressed concern that this was not made public or communicated to the College community. Senator Lowmark commented that the decision to host the polling station was not a choice for the College. Maria Cook explained the State Board of Elections has the ability to use the space of any city or state agency for polling purposes. Senator Lowmark reported that the polling station is in the E-building and that voters had been placed on a restricted path.

## **IX. Announcements**

Rochell Issac reported on the issue of student SIRs and the involvement of the union in this matter. A comment was made by Senator Kamble related to ensuring that students are aware of what they are doing when filling out SIRs for their professors. Though classes are online there will be SIRs evaluations this semester.

Cristy Bruns reminded the group that this would be Senator Sokolski's last day as Senate Chairperson. She wrote and shared with the group a "Resolution: that she has written. The resolution ( found below) was shared with the group. President Adams and Robert Jaffe joined the meeting and spoke words of thanks to Patricia for her service to the Senate.

*Senate's Executive Committee honored outgoing chair Dr. Patricia Sokolski for her outstanding contribution to the shared governance of our college as chair of the College Senate from 2016 to 2019.*

*We commended Dr. Sokolski for her work studying the college's Governance Plan and seeking to fully align Senate practices with it.*

*We commended Dr. Sokolski for building awareness across the college that the committees that carry out much of the work of the college are committees of the Senate;*

*We commended Dr. Sokolski for building awareness that many decisions require Senate approval;*

*We commended Dr. Sokolski for gaining for the Senate chair an invitation to the meetings of the President's cabinet;*

*We commended Dr. Sokolski for her dedication to the work of the Senate resulting in a Senate that is active, vibrant, and functioning in its integral role in creating and sustaining an effective learning community for the success of our students, and also resulting in an increased awareness of that role throughout the college;*

## **X. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Senator Sokolski. This was seconded by Senator Rivas. All senators were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4: 15 pm.

**Next Meeting:** Nov 2 , 2020.