

LaGuardia Community College
Minutes of the College Senate Meeting
January 25, 2017

Present and Voting: Pablo Avila (At-Large Instructional Staff), Claudia Baldonado (Div. Adult and Cont. Ed), Jean Buckley-Lockhart (Counseling), Hara Bastas (Faculty Council), Christopher Carozza (At-large Instructional Staff), Monica Ekiert (ELA), Ana Lucia Fuentes (Natural Sciences), William Fulton (Humanities), Dianne Gordon Conyers (Library), Syed Ali Kazmi (student), Yaqi Li (SGA), Anthony Hargraves (At-Large Adjunct), Evelyn Lowmark (Administration), Reem Jaafar (Instructional Staff), Rebekah Johnson (At-Large Instructional Staff), Jill Kehoe (Social Science), (Student), Arjina Khanom (student), Caroline Mendez (Div. Student Affairs), Md Hamidur Rahman (student), Suzanne Rosenberg (Health Sciences), Henry Derenoncourt (CS), Marina Nechayeva (MEC), Anthony Pappas (Alumni), Eneida Rivas (Institutional Advancement), Maritza Pritsos (Div. Adult and Cont. Ed), Vanshika Sharma (Student), Marcia Akhtar (Student), Patricia Sokolski (Academic Affairs-Chairperson), Naomi Villalba (Student), Leslie Scamacca (Business and Technology), Nancy Santangelo (Division of Student Affairs), TaeJong Kim (President's Office).
Guests: Dean Ann Feibel, Dilrukshan Wijesinghe (Senate Curriculum Committee), Theresia Litvay-Sardou, Director, Instructional Services.

Meeting called to order at 2:15 p.m. E501

I. Approval of the Minutes of the December 14, 2017 meeting (*10 min*)

Evelyn Lowmark made a motion to approve Minutes of Dec 1, 2018; Monica Ekiert second. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Curriculum Committee Report

- a. Response on Senate resolution: Following invitation by the Senate, Dean Ann Feibel made a presentation in response to the question presented by the Senate members regarding the existing process followed to terminate programs. This question followed the unofficial announcement, during the previous Senate meeting, of the closing of the Dietetics Program.

Dean Feibel summarized the series of events that lead to this program's closure, including:

- program had been on probation for a few years
- low enrollment, 15 students (mainly second choice program salaries low, accreditation organization moving away from this program)
- Provost Arcario met with Faculty from the program, then decided to close the program

Dean Feibel explained that the announcement of the closure came to her in December, and Registrar's office needed to be informed to make sure students were advised with regards to the transition.

President Sokolski offered that in future, it would be advisable to send a notice (informational item) to the Senate, to avoid rumors and confusion regarding

Program closures.

b. Inconsistency in the distribution of the draft form for new course proposal distribution: In response to a question regarding the fact that full-time faculty in some Departments were not given copies of the draft of the new course proposal form in order to allow for feedback, Dean Feibel re-iterated that all information received by the Senate College-wide Curriculum Committee should be distributed to all members (not only Dept. curriculum committee members) of the Departments.

c. Items passed by Senate CWCC on January 12

Motion to approve the consent calendar, Eneida Rivas
Seconded: Rebekah Johnson

Consent Calendar Approved unanimously.

III. Update on computer accessibility, availability, upgrade and Technology Fee
Theresa Litvay-Sardou, Director, Instructional Services

Director Litvay-Sardou gave a detailed breakdown of the different services funded with moneys recovered from the Student Technology Fee, including accessibility to computers, both in computer labs as well as in the library, as well as equipping classes to make them “smart” classes. Director Litvay-Sardou also explained that the bulk of the tech fee goes to fund CUNY’s University Technology Infrastructure (BB, registration, etc.)

During the question and answer period, Director Litvay-Sardou described (discretionary) money is allocated by a committee, made up of 4 reps of student government and 3 students from e-portfolio; the recommendations are sent to CUNY where they are given the final approval.

Presently, student senators are not represented in this committee, and Director Litvay-Sardou would encourage and welcome a student representative to join this committee.

It was resolved that student senators will address this issue in their next meeting, and choose a representative to attend the upcoming February meeting, where allocation of money from the Tech Fee will be decided.

IV. Ad-Hoc Committee on Sanctuary Campus Report
Senators Loretta Capuano-Vella, Christopher Carozza, and Nancy Santangelo

Senator Christopher Carozza gave some background regarding the significance of declaring (or not) LaGuardia a Sanctuary Campus. Senator Carozza also explained how problems around discrimination could be impacted due to uncertainty around legislation that may be introduced.

The Ad-hoc committee is putting a Webpage with information on resources around for students, within and outside the college, who may be affected by new legislation. Senator Carozza outlined the following concrete actions, approved by the ad hoc committee, to aid students with problems or concerns:

-Around registration: eliminate all instances where information on immigration can be kept, specifically:

- a. Access to this information: those with access to this info will be given training to how to handle.
- b. Students know their rights: raise awareness, let particular students know what their rights are, still in process, College is working in various campus-wide events

Senator Carozza also explained that the Committee continues to discuss the Sanctuary designation.

A period of questions and answers followed, where Senator Carozza clarified details around the issues he presented. To the question regarding the report that was supposed to be filed by mid February, Senator Carozza responded that the report has not yet been discussed.

V. Chairperson's Report

After expressing concern around irregular (and in some instances, complete absence of) student Senators attendance, Chairperson Sokolski reminded student Senators that per Senate rules, ten student representatives must be present for Senate meetings, from 2:15 until 4:15, when Senate is adjourned. In this regards, Chairperson Sokolski will decide how to address Student Life scheduling meetings between 3:15 and 3:30, on days when Senate meetings are scheduled.

Chairperson Sokolski reported that most of the requests in the list presented by student Senators have been addressed, pointing out that the SGA is also working on solutions to many of these requests, and so it is important that student Senators work with the SGA.

Chairperson Sokolski reported she will meet with the parliamentarian to ask for information regarding HEO representation at the Senate.

Chairperson Sokolski reported that the Center for Teaching and Learning has included representatives from the Senate Committee of Professional Development in order to foster collaboration.

Chairperson Sokolski called on all Senators to indicate whether they are involved in any other college committees, such as the committee working on Advisement 2.0, as well as the 3 year programs. The Chairperson also reminded all Senators to inform their constituencies on the discussions and decisions that have taken place during the Senate meetings.

Finally, Chairperson Sokolski announced "In Transit" is out, and encouraged everyone to read it.

VI. Old Business

No old business

VII. New Business

VIII. Adjournment

Eneida Rivas moved to adjourn; Claudia Baldonado seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:15.