

LaGuardia Community College
Minutes of the Senate Meeting
February 9, 2011

Present: S. Adhikari, C. Baldonado, C. Bolden (3:40PM), J. Cantwell, M. Singh (for O. Chen), R. Chowdhury, R. Das, F. Egger-Sider, M. Ekiert, D. Escobar, Hector Fernandez, Hugo Fernandez, M. Glick, P. Goodson (until 3:30PM), U. Hidle, R. Kahn, H. Kuan, L. Capuano Vella (for R. Levine), G. McCormack, L. McShane, S. Mettler, J. Michello, E. Murray, A. Okomba, A. Pappas, S. Haque (for M. Qi), E. Rivas, M. Samra, C. Sanchez-Narvaez, P. Sokolski (4:10PM), L. Teplin, M. Wong, J. Wynn, B. Yearwood, Z. Yu (3:05PM), J. Zhu.

Guests: A. Chisholm, M. Majidi-Zolbanian

Absent: A. Madi, P. Nicolov, G. Walters,

Excused: P. Paramo

***Nota Bene:** For each action summarized in these minutes, the set consisting of those senators who participated in the action forms a subset of those listed as "Present". The specific vote of each senator that participated in an action is contained in the summaries.*

Chairperson Kahn called the meeting to order at 2:28 PM in room E 500.

I. Approval of Minutes for January 26, 2011

By general consent, the Senate approved the draft version of the minutes of the Senate meeting held on January 26, 2011 with the recommended changes. All senators listed as present for the meeting participated in this action.

II. Chairperson's Report

1. Prof. Carolyn Sterling-Deer resigned from her senate seat for this semester. New senators have been elected to represent the Department of Education & Language Acquisition.
2. In order to ensure continuous reporting of passed curriculum items from the College to the BOT, new Senate bylaws might be needed to take care of missed meetings. A resolution was passed around which was ultimately withdrawn after lengthy discussion.
3. The President created two committees, one for the 40th anniversary of the College, another to revisit the mission of the College. As stipulated in the 2009 governance plan, any taskforce or equivalent body created by the College shall have at least one representative from the Senate. Eneida Rivas is the Senator on the 40th anniversary Committee while Claudia Baldonado represents the Senate on the Mission Committee.
4. The LaGuardia Governance leaders, Chair of the College Senate, LG PSC Chapter Chair, Chair of Faculty Council, and UFS rep will meet with the President on February 10th. They will present a letter decrying attacks on CUNY Professor Dr. Frances Fox-Piven.
5. The Senate Committee on Budget & Finance met on February 7th. Tom Hladek, Business Manager of the College, was very instrumental in orienting the Committee on the various budget entities within the College.
6. Chairperson Kahn put out a call for volunteers for the Ad Hoc Student Committee on Communications, and the Counseling Ad Hoc Committee.
7. The Asian Heritage Celebration Planning Committee is also looking for volunteers for this event in May 2011.

III. Briefing on Online Courses presented by Janet Michello, Steven Ovadia and Santo Trapani, Hybrid/Online Working Group.

In order to take an online course, a student needs a 2.0 average or better and have been enrolled for at least one semester at LaGuardia. The group examined various models of online teaching, hybrid, and fully online. In Spring I, 2011, there will be 40 classes taught online.

When students register for an online class, they are encouraged to take an online self-assessment which would ensure that they know what to expect. The technical requirements for the class are be part of that self-assessment.

Questions were raised regarding peer observation of an online class, better preparation for students, as well as professional development for faculty. Can non-degree students take online classes?

IV. Election of Students to Senate Executive Committee

Student Senator Diana Escobar was elected by acclamation to the Senate Executive Committee.

V. Policy Discussion: Children on Campus

The Committee of Students passed around a draft policy regarding children on campus, whether in a work area or in class. A lengthy discussion ensued which encompassed the issues of liability, number of seats in a classroom, is it an imposition on the faculty member, the class as a whole, an office, etc. The issue was tabled until the next meeting.

VI. Old Business

What happened to the Coop resolution that was being considered at the previous Senate meeting, that no action be taken on the Cooperative Department until college-wide discussion and dialogue can take place? It was learned that four lines from Coop are moving to B&T, while two faculty from Coop remain on loan to other departments. The Senate will likely take up the issue of Coop at its April meeting.

VII. New Business

1. At the last Campus Affairs meeting, students were, mistakenly, not invited and their agenda item was tabled. This will be remedied at the next meeting.

Smoking will be banned entirely on campus. Smokers need to be 50 feet from the entrance to the College. The police will be handing out tickets. Signage has been posted in the patio regarding these changes. There will be a college-wide email announcing these changes. A non-smoking campaign committee is being formed by the students.

2. The Alumni Association will have a fundraiser on February 14th: they will be selling flowers and candy in the main building lobby for Valentine's Day.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine Egger-Sider
Secretary
College Senate

Nota Bene: The Senate approved this final version of these minutes during its meeting of March 9, 2011.