

**LaGuardia Community College**  
**Agenda for the College Senate Meeting**  
**October 25, 2023**  
**2:15-4:30 pm (E-500 and Zoom)**

**Present In-Person and Voting**

Agim Alovic (Student), Abir Apon (Student), Cristy Bruns (English), Jean Buckley-Lockhart (Counseling), Aimeelyn Calandria (Division of Institutional Advancement), Erika Correa (Division of Adult & Continuing Education), Donniece Davis-Cooper (Division of Student Affairs), Douglas DiCarlo (At-Large Instructional), Lisa Flores (Health Sciences), Daniel Gertner (At-Large Instructional Staff), Dianne Gordon Conyers (Library), Annette Hamilton (Division of Enrollment), Rochell Isaac (Faculty Council), John Jara (Student), Zahara Mutebi (Student), Chante Ortega (Student), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Genesis Pichardo (Student), Sabine Rospide (President's Office), Leslie Scamacca (Division of Academic Affairs), Roman Senkov (Natural Sciences), Diana Skilitis (Division of Administration), Elizabeth Streich (Division of Communications and External Affairs), Sandra Sze (MEC)

**Present Online and Voting**

Anwarul Azim (Student), Sumanth Inukonda (Humanities), Rebekah Johnson (ELA), Jill Kehoe (Social Science), Jaime Riccio (At-Large Instructional Staff), Aliyah Robinson (Student)

**Present Online and Non-Voting**

Habiba Boumlik, Eric Hofmann, Wendy Nicholson, Maritza Pristsos, Patricia Sokolski, Derek Stadler

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Approval of Minutes** from September 13, 2023 meeting and October 11, 2023 special session.

Chairperson Bruns asked if there were any modifications to the minutes. A special session was held to hear information about the change in calendar and approve the curriculum. The minutes were approved.

**III. Vote on Curriculum Consent Calendar Items from October 11, 2023.**

A motion to approve the curriculum committee consent calendar items from October 11, 2023 was made by Senator Correa. This was seconded by Senator Buckley-Lockhart. Curriculum Vote: Aye-30, No-0, Abstain-0. The Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from were approved.

**IV. Chair's Report**

- a) Mayor's office asked LaGuardia to provide space for legal counsel to assist asylum seekers. Space has been allocated in M-143.
- b) Concerns have been raised about the M-building lobby being reverted back into an entrance. Due to shortages in security personnel the M-building lobby will remain an exit until further notice.

- c) Chairperson Bruns is a member of LaGuardia's VRB (Vacancy Review Board). Members of the VRB consist of President Kenneth Adams, the President's Chief of Staff Nayelli Turrent, Provost Billie Gastic-Rosado, VP of Administration Shahir Erfan, and the Executive Director of HR Marta Clark. The group decides which vacant positions to prioritize for submission to the CUNY VRB which must approve most non-faculty hires and has increased its scrutiny in an effort to ensure that any hiring at the college is cost-neutral or cost-saving.
- d) There is a discussion on creating an Ombudsman for faculty and staff. A working group is being formed to determine next steps.
- e) Chairperson Bruns was asked to recommend a member of the Senate to serve on the search committee for a permanent Director of Human Resources.

#### **IV. Senate Parliamentarian's Robert's Rules Refresher Series**

Senate Parliamentarian Scamacca presented her Robert's Rules Refresher about voting procedures using secret ballots.

#### **V. Senate Leadership Elections**

According to the Governance Plan, Senate leadership elections are to be conducted using secret ballot. Written ballots are used for voting members in person, and a series of Zoom polls for those voting members joining online.

##### **A. Chair**

Senator Bruns nominated herself for the position of Senate Chair. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

**Results of Chair Ballot 1:** (32 voters)

Senator Bruns: 31 votes Against: 1

##### **B. Vice Chair**

Senator Riccio and Senate Kehoe each nominated themselves for the position of Senate Vice Chair. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

**Results of Vice Chair Ballot 1:** (32 voters)

Jill Kehoe: 23 votes

Jamie Riccio: 9 votes

##### **C. At-Large Student Executive Committee Members (2 Seats)**

Senate Fletcher nominated Senator Alovic. Senators Apon, Robinson, and Mutebi each nominated themselves. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

Senators Alovic, Apon, Mutebi and Robinson offered brief statements of candidacy.

**Results of At-Large Student Executive Committee Ballot 1:** (33 votes)

Senator Robinson: 20 votes

Senator Alovic: 16 votes

Senator Apon: 12 votes

Senator Mutebi: 13 votes

**Results of At-Large Student Executive Committee Ballot 2:** (31 votes)

Senator Alovic: 13 votes

Senator Apon: 10 votes

Senator Mutebi: 10 votes

**Results of At-Large Student Executive Committee Ballot 3:** (31 votes)

Senator Alovic: 15 votes

Senator Apon: 11 votes

Senator Mutebi: 6 votes

Senator Mutebi withdrew.

**Results of At-Large Student Executive Committee Ballot 4:** (32 votes)

Senator Alovic: 25 votes

Senator Apon: 5 votes

Abstain: 1

**D. Secretary**

Senator Hamilton nominated Senator Davis-Cooper. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

**Results of Secretary Ballot 1:** (33 votes)

Senator Davis-Cooper: 32 Abstain: 1

**E. At-Large Faculty/Staff/Alumni Executive Committee Members (2 Seats)**

Senators Riccio, Pappas, and DiCarlo, Shoaib each nominated themselves. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

**Results of At-Large Faculty, Staff, Alumni Executive Committee Ballot 1:** (33 votes)

Senator Riccio: 21 votes

Senator Pappas: 17 votes

Senator Dicarlo: 13 votes

Senator Ahamed: 10 votes

**Results of At-Large Faculty, Staff, Alumni Executive Committee Ballot 2:** (33 votes)

Senator Pappas: 13 votes

Senator Dicarlo: 15 votes

Senator Ahamed: 4 votes

Abstain: 1

Senator Ahamed withdrew.

**Results of At-Large Faculty, Staff, Alumni Executive Committee Ballot 3:** (33 votes)

Senator Pappas: 11 votes

Senator Dicarlo: 19 votes

Abstain: 1

Congratulations to Senate Chairperson Bruns, Vice Chair Kehoe, Secretary Davis-Cooper, Senator Alovic, Senator Robinson, Senator Riccio, and Senator DiCarlo

Elections for the Committee on Committees will take place at the November 8, 2023 Senate meeting. As stated in the Governance Plan, the Committee on Committees shall be comprised of seven members, including a minimum of two students.

**IX. Committee Reports** Due to limited time, most committee reports were postponed.

a. Standing Committees

i. Committee on Committees (vacant, Chair)

No report.

- ii. Curriculum Committee (Dilrukshan Wijesinghe, Chair)  
See above for curriculum approval.
- iii. The Academic Standing Committee (Lilla Töke, Chair)  
No report.
- iv. Committee on Campus Affairs (Evelyn Lowmark and Anthony Pappas, Co-Chairs)  
Senator Pappas said that the college is bringing in Farmer's Fridge vending machines for more healthy food options, which will be placed in various locations of the college for accessibility. LaGuardia has entered into a new temporary contract with MBJ until we get a new round of vendors. Also new signage has been posted about the removal of E transportation devices from being attached to the facades and gates around the campus.
- v. The Committee of Faculty (Dianne Gordon Conyers and Claudette Davis, Co-Chairs)  
No report.
- vi. The Committee on Professional Development (Deborah McMillan-Coddington and Derek Stadler, Co-Chairs) *Report sent by email.*
  1. The next meeting of the Committee on Professional Development will be Monday, November 13 from 11:00 a.m. – 100 p.m.
  2. The Ruhma Choudhury Research Colloquium will not be held in the Fall. There will be a Colloquium in Spring 2024.
  3. The Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards subcommittee has met twice thus far and have agreed to:
    - a. Ongoing meetings and communication for preparing documents such as the Mission Statement and Charges of the subcommittee.
    - b. Develop a plan for nomination of awardees, including developing the survey forms for the nomination.
    - c. Create a committee of election for Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards that will develop criteria, timeline, and procedures for nominating the winners.
- vii. The Budget and Finance Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Chair)  
No report.
- viii. The Committee of Staff and Alumni (Cindy Busch and Donniece Davis-Cooper, Co-Chairs)  
No report.
- ix. The Committee of Students (vacant, Chair)  
No report.

- x. The Committee on Elections (vacant, Chair)  
No report.
- xi. The Executive Committee (Cristy Bruns, Chair)  
See Chair's Report.
- xii. Transfer Committee (Alexa Duque and Misun Dokko, Co-Chairs)  
No report.
- xiii. Food Insecurity, Justice, and Community Need Committee (Rebekah Johnson, Chair)  
No report.

b. Ad Hoc Committees

- i. IT Advisory Committee (Jaime Riccio and Ian McDermott, Co-Chairs)  
No report.
- ii. History Committee (Loretta Capuano-Vella and Charles Keyes, Co-Chairs)  
No report.
- iii. Online Learning Committee (Sandra Sze and Joshua Tan, Co-Chairs)  
No report.
- v. Senate Assessment & Review Committee (Leslie Scamacca, Chair)  
No report.

c. Non-Senate Committees

- i. Advising Council (Jean Buckley Lockhart, Senate Representative)  
No report.

**IX. Unfinished Business**

None.

**VI. New Business**

None.

**VII. Announcements**

Transfer Council has been formed. They will tackle needs assessment and a transfer tool kit to support transfer at LaGuardia.

**VIII. Adjourned**

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned.

The next College Senate meeting will take place on November 8, 2023.