

LaGuardia Community College
Minutes for the College Senate Meeting
January 8, 2025
2:15-4:30 pm
E-500 and Zoom

In-Person Votes

Cristy Bruns (English), Luke Cardaio (At-Large Instructional Staff), Thomas Cleary (Library), Erika Correa (ACE), Lisa Flores (Health Sciences), Annette Hamilton (Division of Enrollment Management), Albert Jimenez (At-Large Instructional Staff), Rebekah Johnson (ELA), Jill Kehoe (Social Science), Kelly Levy (Student), Jiale Lin (Student), Margaret O’Sullivan (Non-Instructional Staff), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Jaime Riccio (Humanities), Athena Rivera (Student), Roman Senkov (Natural Sciences), Elizabeth Streich (Division of Communications and External Affairs), John Toland (Faculty Council), Zofia Tubin (Student), Regina Varin-Mignano (Students Affairs), Odin Wright (At-Large Adjunct)

Online Votes

Jean Buckley Lockhart (Counseling), Miguel Carvajal (Community, Health, and Wellness), Shannon Lund (At-Large Instructional Staff), Lucie Mingla (At-Large Instructional Staff), Leslie Scamacca (Academic Affairs), Sandra Sze (MEC)

Present In-Person

Caterina Almendral, Aimeelyn Calandria, Douglas DiCarlo, Mehedi Hassan, Md Nayeem Hossain, Evelyn Lowmark, Thomas Onorato, Abu Bokkor Siddick, Dilrukshan Wijesinghe

Present Online

Aowshaful Alam Jafin, Donniece Davis-Cooper, Misun Dokko, Elizabeth Jardine, Alex Rojas

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:24PM by Chairperson Cristy Bruns.

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without corrections.

III. Approval of the Minutes from December 4, 2024

The minutes were approved without corrections.

IV. Approval of Curriculum Committee Consent Calendar Items from December 5, 2024

A motion to approve the curriculum committee consent calendar items from December 5, 2024 was made by Senator Toland. This was seconded by Senator O’Sullivan. **Vote: Aye-27, Nay-0, Abstain-0.** The Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from December 5, 2024 were approved.

V. Senator Recall

In accordance with the Governance Plan, Senator Shoaib Ahamed received a letter of recall for lack of attendance and failure to contact Chairperson Bruns. He did not respond, but earlier communications suggest he may not be teaching at LaGuardia this semester. Senator Pappas moved to recall Senator Ahamed. Senator Senkov seconded the motion. The Senate voted unanimously to recall Senator Ahamed.

VI. Committee on Campus Affairs Presentation on Filming on Campus

First Amendment auditors (individuals that test their constitutional rights by filming in public spaces) filmed at LaGuardia on multiple occasions. To prepare for future First Amendment auditor visits, the college should to:

- Identify which buildings and areas are accessible to the public and make it clear to staff that video recording is allowable
- Identify areas that should be deemed non-public and install appropriate signage
- Install appropriate signage in public counter areas to direct traffic and maintain privacy
- Ensure that any confidential or non-public information is not visible in public areas

College personnel should complete the “Evaluate my space” if their office needs signage restricting access. Campus employees in certain areas will be trained on how best to handle First Amendment auditors.

VII. Committee on Campus Affairs Presentation on Turnstile Proposal

LaGuardia administration plans to introduce an access control system that includes optical turnstiles to enhance campus security. Located at the E-building entrance, the Van Dam entrance of the E-building, and the C-building entrance, the turnstiles intend to automate access for verified students faculty, and staff, provide temporary access for certain visitors, and prevent unauthorized individuals from entering campus. Senators voiced the following concerns:

- Data privacy and potential sharing of data with law enforcement agencies
- Creating an unwelcoming environment
- Traffic bottlenecks and delays accessing campus

- Limited effectiveness in preventing unauthorized access
- Access via the M-building despite being designated exit-only

Senators also expressed the importance of eliciting feedback from all campus constituencies, especially students.

VIII. Chair's Report

The Senate website proudly features our new 2024-2025 photo.

Student Senator Wang stepped down from Senate since he transferred to City College. His position will be filled by an Alternate Student Senator.

CUNY and LaGuardia administration are aware of the issues facing our faculty, staff, and students as we inaugurate a new president. Faculty and staff eagerly wait instructions to pass along to students.

VP Alexis McLean will come to the March Senate meeting to present the work of the division of Student Affairs including data on student behavior issues.

The Cohen Career Collective has a new board and has hired Katie Regev to serve as project manager.

LaGuardia is starting a new project with Climb Together – a partnership to help students build social capital.

Nava Lerer, Dean for Institutional Effectiveness, is retiring. We wish her well.

Faculty is encouraged to use Microsoft Teams in addition to Zoom as it provides additional opportunities to connect with staff and students.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. Standing Committees
 - i. Committee on Committees (Elizabeth Streich, Chair)
Thank you to Liz Jardine and Catherine Colangelo for joining the Academic Integrity Committee.
 - ii. Curriculum Committee (Dilrukshan Wijesinghe, Chair)
See above for curriculum approval.
 - iii. The Academic Standing Committee (Caterina Almendral, Chair)
Nothing to report.

- iv. Committee on Campus Affairs (Evelyn Lowmark and Anthony Pappas, Co-Chairs)
See presentations above.
- v. The Committee of Faculty (Lakshmi Vidyasagar, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- vi. The Committee on Professional Development (Deborah McMillan-Coddington and Derek Stadler, Co-Chairs)
Nothing to report.
- vii. The Budget and Finance Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- viii. The Committee of Staff and Alumni (Karamvir Kaur, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- ix. The Committee of Students (Mehedi Hassan and Jiale Lin, Co-Chairs)
Nothing to report.
- x. The Committee on Elections (Vacant, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- xi. The Executive Committee (Cristy Bruns, Chair)
See above for Chair's report.
- xii. Transfer Committee (Alexa Duque and Misun Dokko, Co-Chairs)
In response to recent survey results, the Transfer Committee is working on an Opening Sessions panel to educate faculty on articulation agreements.
- xiii. Food Insecurity, Justice, and Community Need Committee (Rebekah Johnson, Chair)
Nothing to report.

b. Ad Hoc Committees

- i. IT Advisory Committee (Jaime Riccio and Ian McDermott, Co-Chairs)
There is a new Faculty/Staff Portal due to changes in Microsoft. On February 13th there will be an e-Portfolio refresher event. Web Attendance is no longer available and Brightspace will not have attendance taking capability, so faculty will need to use other tools for maintaining attendance records. Be on the lookout for a generative AI survey for faculty and students.
- ii. History Committee (Charles Keyes, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- iii. Online Learning Committee (Joshua Tan and Michele De Goeas-Malone, Co-

Chairs)
Nothing to report.

- iv. Senate Assessment & Review Committee (Leslie Scamacca, Chair)
Nothing to report.

c. Non-Senate Committees

- i. Advising Council (TBD, Senate Representative)
Nothing to report.

X. Unfinished Business

None.

XI. New Business

None.

XII. Announcements

None.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11PM.

Next Meeting: February 5, 2025