

LaGuardia Community College
Agenda for the College Senate Meeting
October 13, 2021
2:15-4:30 pm (Zoom)

Present and Voting

Cristy Bruns (English), Cindy Busch (Division of Institutional Advancement), Loretta Capuano-Vella (Enrollment Management), San San Chow (Student), Catherine Cortes (Student), Claudette Davis (Natural Sciences), Douglas DiCarlo (At-Large Instructional Staff), Crystal Franklin (President's Office), Thomas Gleisner (At-Large Adjunct), Madison Goode (Student), Dianne Gordon Conyers (Library), Nick Hetherington (Student), Sumanth Inukonda (Humanities), Rochell Isaac (Faculty Council), Rebekah Johnson (ELA), Jayashree Kamble (At-Large Instructional), Jill Kehoe (Social Sciences), Theresia Litvay-Sardou (Division of Information Technology), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Karen Pinckney (Division of Administration), Maritza Pritsos (ACE), Eneida Rivas (At-Large Instructional Staff), Suzanne Rosenberg (Health Science), Haajar Saadoune (Student), Leslie Scamacca (Business and Technology), Allana Sinelov (Student), Akiana Smith (Student), Patricia Sokolski (Division of Academic Affairs), Phonpiboon (Juneau) Srimak (Student), Sandra Sze (MEC), Charis Victory (Division of Student Affairs),

Present Non-Voting

Kenneth Adams, Seurette Bazelais, Deborah Coddington, Debra Engel, Bukurie Gjoci, Janet Gonzalez, Albert Jimenez, Robert Jaffe, Charles Keyes, Marta Kowalczyk, Cristina Natale, Alex Rojas, Derek Stadler, Naomi Stubbs, Ria Tillery, Dominique Zino

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Minutes from the September 29, 2021 Meeting

Chairperson Bruns asked if there were any modifications to the September 29, 2021 minutes. The minutes were approved with minor revisions.

III. Vote on Curriculum Consent Calendar Items from October 5, 2021

A motion to approve the curriculum committee consent calendar items from October 5, 2021 was made by Senator Rivas. This was seconded by Senator Victory. The Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from October 5, 2021 were approved with a unanimous voice vote.

IV. Senate Parliamentarian's Roberts Rules Refresher Series

The Roberts Rules Refresher Series for October 13, 2021 was postponed to the October 27, 2021 Senate meeting.

V. Invitation of President Kenneth Adams

President Adams reminded the Senate that the NYC Mobile Vaccination Van is currently located on Van Dam Avenue near LaGuardia for anyone who still needs to be vaccinated. Members asked if President Adams was aware of any upcoming mandate from CUNY

Central mandating vaccinations for staff and faculty. As students are required to be vaccinated to come to campus, not mandating staff and faculty vaccinations raises the issue of parity. President Adams was not aware of any such decision coming in the near future.

Over 1,000 students enrolled in hybrid and/or in-person Fall I 2021 classes are on track to receive a WA as they have not yet uploaded the appropriate vaccination documents. A degree of flexibility is possible if a student has shown an effort to comply with vaccination protocols, but may require extra time. Accommodations are at the discretion of the instructor. LaGuardia is still awaiting guidance regarding the possibility of using stimulus money to give reimbursements to students receiving WAs.

Senate members voiced concerns with the Spring 2022 reopening plan including student vaccination rates, class cancellations, course caps, and changing course modalities. President Adams stressed that LaGuardia must adhere to CUNY Central's 70/30 reopening mandate and will make every effort to ensure the success and safety of faculty, staff, and students. Senators requested that decisions regarding the reopening be made with enough time for students to make the necessary adjustments to their schedules and faculty to make the necessary adjustments to their courses. President Adams reinforced that LaGuardia has protocols in place for handling positive COVID cases including contact tracing and quarantine. Thankfully, both CUNY and LaGuardia currently have very low positivity rates.

Senator Sokolski asked President Adams to weigh in on the current challenge to shared governance at the College of Staten Island (CSI). While President Adams reinforced his commitment to fostering shared governance at LaGuardia, he felt that it was not his role to speak out on the circumstances at CSI, instead describing the situation as one to be handled by the CUNY Chancellor.

VI. Chair's Report

Chairperson Bruns congratulated the newly elected Senators and Alternate Senators representing the student, staff, and faculty constituencies. Due to the low number of college personnel on campus, Senate meetings will solely be held on Zoom for the Fall 2021 semester. We will revisit the issue for Spring 2022 depending upon anticipated campus presence and interest in attending in-person meetings.

Chairperson Bruns updated the Senate on the shared governance situation at the College of Staten Island. As expected, the college's governance body voted down the President's revised governance plan (87% against, 13% for). The question remains as to whether the President will send the revised governance plan to the Board of Trustees despite the negative vote. Videos and emails of support for CSI's shared governance can be submitted until tomorrow evening. Reach out to Chairperson Bruns for more information if you are interested in sending something. Chairperson Bruns will draft a letter on the LaGuardia Senate's behalf.

At the next meeting, we will conduct elections for Senate leadership roles. Chairperson,

Vice Chairperson, and Secretary terms are for one year and require attending additional Executive Committee meetings. Those interested in running for Chair must have already served on the Senate for at least one term. In addition, the Senate will conduct an election for two at-large instructional staff seats on the Executive Committee. Senate Committee Chair positions are also opportunities for leadership.

VII. Senate Goals for 2021-2022

Please see the Senate Goals 2021-2022 document distributed prior to the meeting listing urgent major goals, multi-year major goals, and goals for future consideration. Please let Chairperson Bruns know if you are interested in specifically working on one or more of these goals.

CUNY's training for new chairs will take the form of a conference this year. Senator Sokolski proposed including a workshop at the conference to educate new chairs about the role and significance of shared governance. Her initiative aligns with the Senate's goal of strengthening awareness of the importance of shared governance at LaGuardia and CUNY.

VIII. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

- i. Committee on Committees (Charis Victory, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- ii. Curriculum Committee (Debra Engel, Chair)
See above for curriculum approval.
- iii. The Academic Standing Committee (Janet Gonzalez, Chair)
Chairperson Gonzalez reported that the Academic Standing Committee would be meeting with Interim Associate Dean for Enrollment Gail Baksh-Jarrett in order to discuss the possibility of instating a permanent No Credit policy. The Academic Standing Committee will also hold a workshop on academic policies on October 18th covering syllabi, grades, incompletes, appeals, attendance, and academic integrity.
- iv. Committee on Campus Affairs (Eneida Rivas, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- v. The Committee of Faculty (Leslie Scamacca, Chair)
Chairperson Scamacca noted that the Committee of Faculty would be meeting following the Senate session. The Committee of Faculty started collecting feedback from Program Directors around the college regarding Spring 2022 reopening concerns. The Committee of Faculty also collaborated with the Wellness Center to draft sample language describing the center's services for potential inclusion in course syllabi.

- vi. The Committee on Professional Development (Deborah McMillan-Coddington and Christopher McHale, Co-Chairs)
The Committee on Professional Development circulated a call for proposals for the Ruhma Choudhury Research Colloquium. If enough proposals are submitted, the colloquium may take place in both the Fall and Spring.
 - vii. The Budget and Finance Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Interim Chair)
Interim Chairperson Sokolski reviewed the Bursar's collection. Of note, if the school does not collect these funds, CUNY will lower the base budget. The Committee hopes to hold an event designed to demystify the budget and the budget deficit situation at LaGuardia and CUNY.
 - viii. The Committee of Staff and Alumni (Erika Correa and Eneida Rivas, Co-Chairs)
The Committee of Staff and Alumni will meet immediately following the Senate session.
 - ix. The Committee of Students (Akiana Smith, Chair)
The Committee of Students will meet immediately following the Senate session.
 - x. The Committee on Elections (Seurette Bazalais, Chair)
Chair Bazalais reviewed the results of the recent Senate elections and congratulated the new Senators and Alternates.
 - xi. The Executive Committee (Cristy Bruns, Chair)
See Chair's report.
 - xii. Transfer Committee (Ana-Lucia Fuentes and Jayashree Kamble, Co-Chairs)
The Transfer Committee will work with the Committee on Committees as it needs new membership recruits. Senator Kehoe will broach the issue of developing transfer content in FYS courses at the upcoming FYS liaison meeting on October 26th.
 - xiii. Food Insecurity, Justice, and Community Need Committee (Nicolle Fernandes and Rebekah Johnson, Co-Chairs)
The FIJCN Committee plans to host a food drive around Thanksgiving time and another drive in December for toys and other winter items.
- b. Ad Hoc Committees
- i. Governance Plan Revision Committee (Leslie Scamacca, Chair)
Chairperson Scamacca indicated that the revised Governance Plan will hopefully be ready for discussion at the March 2022 Senate meeting. Voting can then take place at the April and May 2022 meetings.

ii. IT Advisory Committee (J. Elizabeth Clark, Chair)
Nothing to report.

iii. Senate History Committee (Loretta Capuano-Vella and Charles Keyes, Co-Chairs)

The History Committee is actively looking for new members. Co-Chairperson Keyes is inquiring on how to build an archive for the Senate's use. As he envisions it to be more complex and searchable than a regular website, it may take some time to accomplish.

c. Non-Senate Committees

i. Advising Council (Jean Buckley Lockhart, Senate Representative)
Nothing to report.

IX. Unfinished Business

None.

X. New Business

None.

XI. Announcements

None.

XII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Senator Sokolski. This was seconded by Senator Rivas. The meeting was adjourned at 4:05pm.

Next Meeting: October 27, 2021