

LaGuardia Community College
Minutes for the College Senate Meeting
November 13, 2024
2:15-4:30 pm
E-500 and Zoom

In-Person Votes

Cristy Bruns (English), Jean Buckley Lockhart (Counseling), Aimeelyn Calandria (President's Office), Luke Cardaio (At-Large Instructional Staff), Miguel Carvajal (Community, Health, and Wellness), Thomas Cleary (Library), Annette Hamilton (Division of Enrollment Management), Abdul Hashim (At-Large Instructional Staff) Mehedi Hassan (Student), Givanni Ildefonso-Sanchez (ELA), Albert Jimenez (At-Large Instructional Staff), Celina Johnson (Student), Jill Kehoe (Social Science), Kelly Levy (Student), Jiale Lin (Student), Naomi Marajh (At-Large Instructional Staff), Thomas Onorato (Academic Affairs), Margaret O'Sullivan (Non-Instructional Staff), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Maritza Pritsos (ACE), Athena Rivera (Student), Roman Senkov (Natural Sciences), Patricia Sokolski (Humanities), Karma Sonan (Student), Elizabeth Streich (Division of Communications and External Affairs), Jiten Tamang (Student), John Toland (Faculty Council), Zofia Tubin (Student), Regina Varin-Mignano (Division of Student Services), Lakshmi Vidyasagar (MEC), Odin Wright (At-Large Adjunct)

Online Votes

None

Present In-Person

Kenneth Adams, Caterina Almendral, Gail Baksh-Jarrett, Kenneth Campanelli, Lisa Flores, Sada Hye Jaman, Karamvir Kaur, Shannon Lund, Helen Skirchak, John Smith

Present Online

Aowshaful Alam Jafin, Dan Capic, Loretta Capuano-Vella, Maria Cook, Claudette Davis, Shahir Erfan, Hugo Fernandez, Evelyn Lowmark, Leslie Scamacca, Abu Bokkor Siddick, Derek Stadler, Nayelli Valencia, Dilrukshan Wijesinghe

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:22PM by Chairperson Cristy Bruns.

II. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda for the November 13, 2024 Senate meeting was made by Senator Streich. This was seconded by Senator Senkov. The motion passed and the agenda was approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes from October 23, 2024

The minutes were approved without corrections.

IV. Approval of Curriculum Committee Consent Calendar Items from October 24, 2024

A motion to approve the curriculum committee consent calendar items from October 24, 2024 was made by Senator Toland. This was seconded by Senator Pappas. **Vote: Aye-31, Nay-0, Abstain-0.** The Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from October 24, 2024 were approved.

V. Invitation of President Adams for Presentation of the Strategic Plan

President Adams presented the college's work on its new Five-Year Strategic Plan. President Adams reviewed the draft recommendations and actions for each of the five pillars of student success: access; teaching and learning; student support; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and career success. He invited the college community to attend the upcoming Strategic Plan Open House on Friday November 22nd at 9am to provide additional feedback.

VI. Invitation to Senator Aimeelyn Calandria and Diana Hernandez for Presentation of LaGuardia Foundation Resources Available for Students of All Backgrounds

The LaGuardia Foundation provides resources for all degree-seeking and continuing education students, regardless of citizenship status. Opportunities for support include scholarships, emergency financial assistance, enrichment programs, and on campus employment. The newest initiative is the Friedman Fund, which offers scholarships, emergency assistance, and stipends for enrichment programs to degree-seeking and continuing education students of any non-citizen status. The PowerPoint presentation will be available on the Senate website.

VII. Chair's Report

The Senate will take its annual photo at the Wednesday December 4th meeting.

At the previous meeting, Senators raised questions regarding student representation on the newly created ad hoc Academic Integrity Committee and if it violated the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). According to the college's legal counsel, the student on the committee becomes a college official in that role and has the right to view documents relevant to the work of the committee. The student, like other committee members, must maintain confidentiality.

Previous Student Senators raised concerns about there being only one advisor available to international students on campus. Chairperson Bruns reported that the college is currently interviewing for two new positions (a designated student officer and an advisor) to start in January.

Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Wendy Hensel is leaving CUNY. Her interim replacement is Alicia Alvero, a former faculty member at Queens College. Before her departure, an ad-hoc UFS working group, including Chair Bruns, offered feedback largely incorporated into Hensel's bylaws revisions.

In response to a memo from the Committee on Academic Policy (CAP) mentioning the consolidation of small programs to improve efficiency at CUNY, the UFS requested governance representation on the committee. The representatives reported back that the committee did not discuss small program consolidation, but instead focused on standardizing academic policies.

CUNY is tracking data on class fill rates and class size across all campuses. LaGuardia has a class fill rate of 92% and an average class size of 22, the lowest of all CUNY schools.

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Standing Committees
 - i. Committee on Committees (Elizabeth Streich, Chair)
Contact Senator Streich if you need additional members for your Senate committee.
 - ii. Curriculum Committee (Dilrukshan Wijesinghe, Chair)
See above for curriculum approval.
 - iii. The Academic Standing Committee (Caterina Almendral, Chair)
The Academic Standing Committee will host an in-person/online Kahoot and Cookies meet and greet on Monday November 18th from 2:30-3:30PM.
 - iv. Committee on Campus Affairs (Evelyn Lowmark and Anthony Pappas, Co-Chairs)
Nothing to report.
 - v. The Committee of Faculty (Lakshmi Vidyasagar, Chair)
The Committee of Faculty will meet following the Senate meeting.
 - vi. The Committee on Professional Development (Deborah McMillan-Coddington and Derek Stadler, Co-Chairs)

The EDIT subcommittee distributed \$11,993 in funding to 20 applicants. They are revising the application instructions. Funding is still available for up to \$1,000 in Open Access fees.

The In-Service Training subcommittee scheduled two workshops in the Fall semester - “Encouraging Online Participation” and “Brightspace Workshop.”

The Ruhma Choudhury Research Colloquium date is still undecided, but will be in the Spring semester.

- vii. The Budget and Finance Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Chair)
There will be a budget presentation at the December 4th meeting of the Senate.

Senator Sokolski reported back about a conversation at the UFS regarding the role of politics in creating CUNY budgets.

- 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)
Nothing to report.
 - 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)
Nothing to report.
 - 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)

XII. Unfinished Business

None.

XIII. New Business

None.

XIV. Announcements

None.

XV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24PM.

Next Meeting: December 4, 2024