

**LaGuardia Community College  
Minutes of the Senate Meeting  
28 January 2004**

**Present:** V. Bruno, J. Devine, V. Ginter (for J. Giordano), M. Glick, J. Grumet, C. Hiraldo, J. G. Ianni, E. Johmann, T. Litvay-Sardou, J. Michello, E. Murray, R. Octaviano, A. Pappas, M. Perez, G. Richmond, V. Victoria

**Absent:** C. Baldonado, J. Berrios, K. Boudhan, A. Burgess, J. Cantwell, D. Davidson, M. Diaz, P. Dillon, D. Gordon, G. Grewal, M. Hossain, S. Islam, T. Kar, K. Khanam, B. Kulesza, M. Mazumder, M. Nur-E-Aziz, M. Razzak, N. Remy, E. Rivas, R. Sarmiento, L. Thinley

**Excused:** E. Carrasquillo, G. Libreros, W. Kurzyna, G. Rhodes, L. Sardell

**Guests:** VP P. Jordan, President G. O. Mellow, O. Vega

Chairperson Ianni called the meeting to order at 2:42 p.m. in room E-500.

**I. Approval of Minutes for 7 January 2004**

It was moved and seconded to approve the draft version of the minutes of the Senate meeting held on 7 January 2004 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Report from the Chairperson**

- A. Chairperson Ianni read portions of an e-mail sent from Susan O'Malley, Chairperson of the CUNY Faculty Senate, reporting that the new Associate Dean of the CUNY School of Professional Studies will be Brian Peterson. John Mogulescu is the Dean of the school. The e-mail also contained an update on CUNY's proposed new policy regarding the inclusion of permit courses in the computation of the grade point average (GPA). The CUNY Office of Academic Affairs announced that permit grades would be entered as part of the GPA university-wide. However, this action was taken without faculty input. The matter is under review, and implementation of this proposed policy is currently on hold.
- B. Chairperson Ianni distributed additional copies of materials concerning SIRS and announced that the Senate would discuss them at its meeting on 11 February 2004. He distributed an "Executive Summary" sheet contained in a report, prepared by Jeffrey Weintraub of the Office of Institutional Research, entitled *The Space and Enrollment Implications of a Proposed Calendar Change*. A committee including Paul Arcario, Jerry Ianni, Jane Schulman, and Olga Vega will go through the report and prepare an academic analysis. The Senate Executive Committee will defer its poll of the students about the calendar.

**III. Proposed 2004-2005 LaGuardia Community College Academic Calendar & the Second Club Hour**

Vice President Peter Jordan and Olga Vega presented a revised draft of the 2004-2005 Academic Calendar for consideration by the Senate (see Exhibit I). VP Jordan described the difficulties of scheduling classes in September because of the numerous holidays and stated that the Executive Council desired the Senate's feedback. He stated that August 30

is the official start of the academic year on the university-wide calendar and was specified as the start of the fall semester on the LaGuardia calendar to act as a flag for our college community to help signal the beginning of the new year. There was some discussion as to whether the inclusion of this date on the calendar implied a shortening of the annual leave period for faculty specified in the PSC agreement. Chairperson Ianni felt that it was within the Senate's jurisdiction to consider such implications since the College Governance Plan states in Article I, Section I, Paragraph E, that the Senate "shall have responsibility ... [to] determine and review all policies dealing with instruction, and with faculty and student welfare and development consistent with academic freedom and professional standards." President Mellow suggested that contractual issues about periods of annual leave and workload do not fall under "standards of the profession", as would ethics, curricular issues, or grading policies. She felt that specific working conditions would be a union issue.

The Co-op Department indicated that they were satisfied with the Co-op cycle dates given on the proposed calendar. It was suggested that Opening Sessions for Faculty and Staff in the Fall 2004 Semester be moved to September 7 so that more faculty and staff might come. It was noted that both September 2 and September 7 are heavy registration days. A concern was raised that the registration schedule on either day might prevent counselors and others involved in the process from participating in Opening Sessions.

It was moved and seconded that the revised draft of the 2004-2005 Academic Calendar be approved as presented, with the addition of an entry specifying March 7, 2005, as the "Start of the Spring Semester". The motion passed by a vote of 9 in favor and 6 opposed.

Olga Vega then presented the rationale for specifying Friday afternoon from 2:15 to 4:25 p.m. as the "second club hour". It was moved and seconded to endorse the specification of Friday afternoon from 2:15 to 4:25 p.m. as the "second club hour". The motion passed unanimously.

#### **IV. Report from the Committee on Campus Affairs**

Eileen Murray, Chairperson of the Committee on Campus Affairs, informed the Senate that Pepsi and Coke both offered proposals for "exclusive pouring rights" on campus. Pepsi's proposal is likely to be accepted since they offered more money, \$40,000 a year plus an additional \$5,000 a year for the LaGuardia Foundation. It is likely that the \$40,000 would be transferred to the LaGuardia Foundation so that all of these funds would support scholarships for our students. Eileen also mentioned that the Campus Affairs Cafeteria Sub-Committee would meet with the Business Office in the near future to establish a cafeteria RFP review committee. She briefly described how such a committee would operate.

#### **V. Proposed Suspension of Admissions to the Education Associate: The Bilingual Child Program**

The Education Associate: The Bilingual Child program undertook a self-study in fall 2002. An outside evaluator, Dr. Ofelia Garcia of Columbia Teachers College, reviewed

that report and raised fundamental questions regarding the appropriateness of the preparation offered by the program. Both President Mellow and the Humanities Department support suspending admissions to the program. Suspended status gives the college up to two years to determine the program's future direction. Gary Richmond reported that the Humanities Department faculty members have definite ideas about its future. A preliminary proposal has been submitted to Vice President John Bihn for a "Latino Studies" option in the AA program. This proposal provides for students' academic and cultural interests as recommended in Dr. Garcia's report.

It was moved and seconded to suspend admissions to the College's program, Education Associate: The Bilingual Child, beginning Spring 1, 2004. The motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Open Forum on the CUNY Master Plan 2004-2008**

President Mellow led a discussion regarding the draft outline of the CUNY Master Plan 2004-2008. She asked for feedback on how the concerns and needs of the LaGuardia community might be worked into the Master Plan. The following were among the suggestions offered by the senators: establishing uniformity for websites CUNY-wide, clarifying Alumni affairs CUNY-wide, clarifying enrollment management resources (e.g. centralizing data on applicant pools and campuses), articulating tutoring policies for all subjects, and developing new graduate programs.

**VII. Old Business**

No old business was presented at this meeting.

**VIII. New Business**

No new business was presented at this meeting.

**IX. General Announcements**

No general announcements were made at this meeting.

**X. Adjournment**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry G. Ianni  
Chairperson  
College Senate

*Nota Bene:* Joanne Grumet prepared the original draft of these minutes. The Senate approved this final revised version at its meeting of 24 March 2004.