

LaGuardia Community College  
**Agenda for the College Senate Meeting**  
November 10, 2021  
2:15-4:30 pm (Zoom)

**Present and Voting**

Cristy Bruns (English), Jean Buckley-Lockhart (Counseling), Cindy Busch (Division of Institutional Advancement), Loretta Capuano-Vella (Enrollment Management), San San Chow (Student), Erika Corea (Division of Adult & Continuing Education), Catherine Cortes (Student), Claudette Davis (Natural Sciences), Crystal Franklin (President's Office), Madison Goode (Student), Dianne Gordon Conyers (Library), Nick Hetherington (Student), Rochell Isaac (Faculty Council), Albert Jimenez, (Division of Academic Affairs), Rebekah Johnson (ELA), Jayashree Kamble (At-Large Instructional), Jill Kehoe (Social Sciences), Margaret O'Sullivan (Non-Instructional Staff), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Karen Pinckney (Division of Administration), Eneida Rivas (At-Large Instructional Staff), Tara Scales, (Health Science), Leslie Scamacca (Business and Technology), Allana Sinelov (Student), Akiana Smith (Student), Phonpiboon (Juneau) Srimak (Student), Sandra Sze (MEC), Dana Trusso (Humanities), Charis Victory (Division of Student Affairs).

**Present Non-Voting**

Fay Butler, Randy Changoo, J. Elizabeth Clark, Deborah Coddington, Maria Cook, Maya Demby, Douglas Di Carlo, Maria Enterazi, Hugo Fernandez, Janet Gonzalez, Sunil Gupta, Robert Jaffe, Evelyn Lowmark, Ian McDermott, Chris McHale, Cristina Natale, Adhiambi Okombo, Alex Rojas, Elizabeth Streich, Ria Tillery

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:17pm by Chairperson Cristy Bruns.

**II. Approval of Minutes from the October 27, 2021 Meeting**

Chairperson Bruns asked if there were any modifications to the October 27, 2021 minutes. Senator Capuano-Vella asked that the minutes be edited to reflect the correct spelling of her name and her correct position as Senator for Enrollment Management. With the modifications, the minutes were approved.

**III. Vote on Curriculum Consent Calendar Items from October 28, 2021**

A motion to approve the curriculum committee consent calendar items from October 28, 2021 was made by Senator Rivas. This was seconded by Senator Busch. **Vote: Aye-29, Nay-0, Abstain-0.** The Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from October 28, 2021 were approved.

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

The Roberts Rules Refresher Series for November 10, 2021 was postponed to the December 1, 2021 Senate meeting.

**V. Invitation of Interim Associate Dean for Student Success Fay Butler**

Interim Associate Dean for Student Success Butler presented a proposal to resume athletics at LaGuardia. The presentation provided a framework for reintroducing an organized Athletics Program including women's cross country, swimming, volleyball, and basketball, and men's cross country, soccer, swimming, and basketball. Dr. Butler reviewed the academic requirements expected of student-athletes and the support services available to promote academic success, methods for regular assessment of the Athletic Program, proposed budgets, staff hiring, and data regarding athletics and academic success at other CUNY community colleges.

Senator Capuano-Vella confirmed that students often ask which sports are offered at LaGuardia, but questioned if money collected from Student Activity Fees was sufficient to cover all five proposed sports. Dr. Butler clarified that in addition to collecting future fees, there is already a healthy balance from previously collected Student Activity Fees that will go toward funding the Athletics Program. Senator Busch requested that a photographer be added into the program's budget to promote the program, because Marketing is too understaffed to provide photography, due to budget cuts. Alex Rojas reminded the Senate that student-athletes were required to go to the Library and names from Library sign-in sheets were forwarded to coaches to ensure compliance. Senator Rivas expressed concern that if the Athletics Program monopolized use of campus facilities, substantial funds from rental agreements would be lost. Dr. Butler agreed the use of facilities by the Athletics Program should be scheduled strategically to preserve income from facility rentals.

**VI. Committee on Committees Election**

The Committee on Committees is tasked with filling vacancies on Senate committees in accordance with the Governance Plan. The Committee on Committees shall be elected from among the members of the College Senate and shall be comprised of seven members, including a minimum of two students. Senators Victory, Capuano-Vella, Lowmark, and Buckley-Lockhart nominated themselves. Senator Gordon Conyers nominated Senator McDermott, who accepted. Student Senator Hetherington nominated Student Senator Cortes, who accepted. Student Senator Hetherington nominated himself, rescinded his self-nomination, and then nominated Student Senator Srimak, who accepted. The Senate voted by acclamation to elect Senators Victory, Capuano-Vella, Lowmark, Buckley-Lockhart, and McDermott, and Student Senators Cortes and Srimak to the Committee on Committees. The newly elected members will meet following the Senate session to elect a new chairperson.

**VII. Chair's Report**

Chairperson Bruns announced that Provost Arcario was informed that Senate approved the new NC policy at the October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

In light of concerns expressed by Senate constituencies, discussions regarding Senate-wide goals and the curriculum process revision are temporarily postponed. Chairperson Bruns will make herself available to any constituency group to answer questions and offer additional clarification before resuming discussions.

Chairperson Bruns announced that the next virtual Town Hall with President Adams will be on Friday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am. She also reminded the Senate that she has a seat on the President's Cabinet and can use her position to convey constituency needs and concerns.

### **VIII. Creation of an Ad Hoc Online Learning Committee**

The proposed ad hoc Online Learning Committee will address both remote learning issues as well as the future of online learning at LaGuardia. A primary task of the committee will be updating outdated online learning policies. Senator Scamacca motioned to create an ad hoc Online Learning Committee comprised of Senator and non-Senator members of the college. The motion was seconded by Senator Johnson. Senator Capuano-Vella reminded the Senate of the importance of recruiting student members and staff members from relevant campus offices. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

### **IX. 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)  
Nothing to report.
- iv. Committee on Campus Affairs (Eneida Rivas, Chair)  
Nothing to report.
- v. The Committee of Faculty (Leslie Scamacca and Dianne Gordon Conyers, Co-Chairs)  
The Committee Faculty will meet immediately following the Senate session where they will certify degrees for Spring 2021 graduates.
- vi. The Committee on Professional Development (Deborah McMillan-Coddington and Christopher McHale, Co-Chairs)  
Co-Chair McHale provided details about the following professional development initiatives:

#### The In-Service Training Committee:

#### *Co-Teaching Across Disciplines (STEM)*

Date: Wednesday, November 17th

Time: 11:45am-12:45pm

The presenters ran a class pair- MAT115 (College Algebra and Trigonometry) and SCB201 (General Biology) for two semesters. In this presentation, the

professors will discuss the experience, including sharing assignments and best practices for running a class pair across disciplines.

Ruhma Choudhury Research Colloquium:

*Ruhma Choudhury Research Colloquium*

Date: November 19, 2021

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The colloquium provides a platform to share completed research works, as well as works in progress; receive feedback from colleagues on research; support and encourage faculty scholarship; promote an interdisciplinary dialogue among the members across the College community.

Professional Development for Diversity and Inclusion:

The events next week from Monday, November 15 - Wednesday, November 17 will be a start of an ongoing series of events celebrating UNITY.

*SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) - Conversation on Critical Race Theory and its Meaning for our College Community*

Date: Monday, November 15th

Time: 1:00-2:30

Professors John Chaney and Joni Schwartz will lead a dialogue on Critical Race Theory grounded in the practices, choices, and mission of our community college. Together, we will use the recent public focus on CRT to raise and think through challenging questions about race history, education, and justice.

*Executive Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Wendy Nicholson and Prof. Nancy Bandiera – Say, WHAT?*

Date: Tuesday, November 16

Time: 10:30am-11:45am

Let's link to chill. R you ready for this? Change is comin' here... you wanna be that change? Don't miss this in interactive and engaging dialogue!

*Senate subcommittee on DEI - Return to Campus--What it Means to Me*

Date: Tuesday, November 16

Time: 2:30pm-4pm

The Senate Professional Development sub-committee on Diversity and Inclusion invites you to a Faculty, Staff and Student interactive session to be held on November 16th from 2:30pm to 4:00pm. The session will provide an opportunity to raise awareness around the challenges each of us face as we return to campus and strengthen mutual understanding and support between and among groups in the community. Participants have an opportunity to hear from different members of the LaGuardia community, learn about various services offered, and brainstorm ways in which we could collaborate in creating a more inclusive campus at LaGuardia.

*Faculty and staff of color Collective (FSOC) - Real Talk: Can I Be Me?*

Date: Wednesday, November 17

Time: 1pm-2pm

This student-centered presentation provides a forum for students to express diverse voices and honestly share their thoughts and concerns about their experiences at LaGuardia. Students will address their unique experiences and discuss their capacity to bring their "real selves" to school, and the challenges faced based on the multiple identities that they hold.

*Mythbusting Deafness*

Date: Wednesday, November 17

Time: 3:30pm-4:30pm

Join us as we discuss Deaf Culture, Sign Language, CODA's, Black ASL and more.

- vii. The Budget and Finance Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Interim Chair)  
Nothing to report.
- viii. The Committee of Staff and Alumni (Eneida Rivas and Evelyn Lowmark, Co-Chairs)  
The Committee of Staff and Alumni will meet immediately following the Senate session.
- ix. The Committee of Students (Akiana Smith, Chair)  
Nothing to report.
- x. The Committee on Elections (Seurette Bazalais, Chair)  
There is one outstanding election – Alternate Senator for the Division of Student Success.
- 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's First Year Seminar event hosted by Dr. Poppy Slocum was cancelled due to low enrollment. The event will be rescheduled for Fall II. Committee member Senator Kehoe will continue emphasize transfer-related content in her work as a First Year Seminar Liaison. The Transfer Committee also notified the Committee of Committees of its need for new members.
- xiii. Food Insecurity, Justice, and Community Need Committee (Nicolle Fernandes and Rebekah Johnson, Co-Chairs)  
The Thanksgiving food drive begins today. Please place goods in the designated boxes in the C building or donate online at the LaGuardia Foundation webpage.

b. Ad Hoc Committees

i. Governance Plan Revision Committee (Leslie Scamacca, Chair)

The Governance Plan Revision Committee is finishing their secondary review of suggestions. Ideally, the proposal will be brought to the Executive Committee in December for approval to disseminate. Discussions at the Senate and throughout the college community can then occur in January-February. Senators will be asked to bring the proposal to their constituencies. Eliciting feedback from constituency groups without regular meetings may be more difficult, so townhall forums may be arranged. Ultimately, two votes at separate meetings are required to pass the new Governance Plan.

ii. IT Advisory Committee (J. Elizabeth Clark, Chair)

Nothing to report.

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

The Senate History Committee reached out to the Committee on Committees to find additional members. The Senate History Committee is looking for members to participate in an interview process, gathering insight from individuals previously involved with shared governance on campus.

c. Non-Senate Committees

i. Advising Council (Jean Buckley Lockhart, Senate Representative)

Nothing to report.

**X. Unfinished Business**

None.

**XI. New Business**

None.

**XII. Announcements**

None.

**XIII. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Senator Rivas. This was seconded by Senator Busch. The meeting was adjourned at 3:33pm.

**Next Meeting:** December 1, 2021