MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF QUEENS COLLEGE   **February 8, 2024**

The meeting will come to order:

Chair Kevin L. Ferguson called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda:**

   i.   MOTION: Duly made by Chair Ferguson:

   "To approve the agenda"

   MOTION: Duly made by Senator, Clare Carroll, Comparative Literature:

   "To amend the agenda and add item 7d. New Business: Open Letter protesting the firing of 26 Full-Time Faculty"

   Hearing no objection to the motion, the agenda was approved as amended.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

   i.   MOTION: Duly made by Chair Ferguson:

   "To approve the senate minutes dated December 14, 2023"

   Hearing no objection to the motion the minutes were approved as distributed.

3. **Announcements, Administrative Reports and Memorials:**

   a. Guest Speakers, Interim Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs Patricia Price and Faculty Liaison for Evaluation and Assessment Christopher Hanusa

   Interim Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs Patricia Price and Faculty Liaison for Evaluation and Assessment Christopher Hanusa introduced themselves as members of Queens College's Executive Steering Committee and gave a brief presentation on the Middle States Re-Accreditation Process. They announced that Queens College's 2024-2026 Self-Study officially launched on Monday, February 5, 2024 and will continue for the next two years. They noted that, in Fall 2024, they will be looking to add students to the seven working groups. They are also currently looking for any faculty or staff members who would be interested in participating in the working group for Standard VII: Governance, Leadership, and Administration. More information about the Middle States Re-Accreditation Process, as well as a copy of the previous Self-Study Report, can be found at the following link: https://www.qc.cuny.edu/accreditation/middle-states/

   b. Interim Dean of Arts and Humanities Simone L. Yearwood reminded everyone on behalf of the Elections Committee that the Nomination Period for faculty and student elections opens up on Sunday, February 18, 2024 and runs through Saturday, March 2, 2024. There are a number of seats available on the Academic Senate. Anyone who is interested in appearing on the ballot must nominate themselves during this period. The date of record is Friday, February 23, 2024.

   c. Senator, Karl Fath, Biology read the following memorial:

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It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Professor Jon Sperling on Saturday, February 3, after a struggle with cancer. Jon was an undergraduate at Queens College in the 1950's and later became one of the Biology Department's foremost naturalists and educators for decades. He inspired generations of students to become nature-lovers and teaching favorite field courses such as Natural History, Lower and Higher Plants, and Ornithology. At 87 years old he was thinking about retirement, but he was not looking forward to it—he never wanted to leave Queens College. Jon leaves behind three children and three grandchildren.

The memorial and viewing hours will be today, Thursday, February 8 from 2 to 5 pm and 7 to 9 pm at the Fox Funeral Home, 9807 Ascan Avenue in Forest Hills.

> The Senate paid its respects with a moment of silence.

d. Barbara Moore, a Psychologist from the Counseling Center, announced that the Center is offering four new groups to students this semester: a relationship group, a coping skills group, a men's support group, and a support group for student parents. She can provide a packet with more information about each of these groups to any students who are interested. She also noted that the Center offers individual and group counseling services to faculty and staff members who need it. The Counseling Center is located in Frese Hall, on the first floor.

4. Special Motions: (none)

5. Committee Reports:

5a. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

    i. MOTION: Duly made by Ken Lord, Chair of the UCC:

> "To accept the UCC minutes dated December 14, 2023 as distributed"

Hearing no objection to the motion, the Chair moved unanimous consent.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee   Minutes of 12/14/2023

    A. General Education

1. General Education Matters

    BUS 101. Personal Finance and Investment (MQR)

2. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning Advisory Committee.

3. Writing Intensive Advisory Committee.

4. STEM variant courses.

1. Linguistics and Communication Disorders

Change to a Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders (CMSCI-BA)

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To Read:

Required Courses outside of the CSD program that can be taken at any time. (15 credits)

- PSYCH 101, PSYCH 214

- One 3 credit course in Statistics: ~~SOC 206 or~~ PSYCH 107.3 or MATH 114*

- One 3 credit course in Biological Science** ~~BIO 9 or BIO 21 or BIO 22*~~

- One 3 credit course in Physical Science** ~~PHYS 3 or PHYS 5; CHEMISTRY 16.3 or CHEM 101.3 or CHEM 113.4*~~

*You can choose to take the 4-credit courses of **DATA 205 and MATH 114W and it will fulfill our major's requirement**.

You can take **ANY basic 3-credit Biological and Physical Science course and it will be **acceptable for our major**. The science courses you choose should have the terms **BIO for the Biological Science requirement and PHYS or CHEM for the Physical Science requirement in the course title**. We strongly recommend that you **contact the Speech Language Pathology graduate school programs** that you plan to apply to and verify that the course you take fulfills their requirement.
~~*The Biological and Physical Science courses are required for CSD students who entered the major in the Fall of 2022 or after.*~~

It is the student's responsibility to check if pre-requisites are necessary for the above classes.
Some biology, physics and chemistry courses may also fulfill the college's Pathways requirement

2. **Political Science**

Proposed additional electives for Legal Studies Minor

TO:

Legal Studies Minor

The Department of Political Science is pleased to offer a Minor in Legal Studies!

Highlights of the minor:
• 18 credits, including 3 required courses in political science (9 cr.) and three law-related electives chosen from a range of academic departments (9 cr.)
• Open to students of any major
• 9 credits of the minor can be applied to a major in political science.

Required: (9 credits):

PSCI 100. American Politics and Government (USED, SS US)

PSCI 280. The Judicial Process (USED, SS US; under application)
PSCI 290.1. Legal Reasoning

Electives: (9 credits from the following)

ACCT 261. Business Law I. (IS, CV, US)
ACCT 362, 362W Business Law II.
ACCT 363. Business Law III.
BALA 302. Law and Ethics of Business
ECON 242. Regulation of American Business. 3 credits
HIST 186. Introduction to Legal History. 3 credits
HIST 288. Law, Crime, and Society in U.S. History
History 290. Law, Crime & Society in Jewish History
HIST 329. Civil Rights Movement.
HIST 340. American Constitutional History to 1865.
HIST 341. American Constitutional History since 1865.
MEDST 357 (3 credits), 357W (4 credits). Media, Law, and Ethics.
PHIL 109. Modern Logic.
PHIL 223. Philosophy of Law.
PHIL 121. Law, Ethics, and Medicine.
PSCI 250. International Law
PSCI 273. American Political Thought.
PSCI 281. Constitutional Law I: The American Federal Scheme.
PSCI 282. Constitutional Law II: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights.
PSCI 283. Politics of Crime.
PSCI 284. Justice and Law.
PSCI 285. Race, Class, Gender, and Law.
PSCI 286. Theories of Law and Human Rights
PSCI 287. Law, Politics, and the Environment.
PSCI 288. Understanding the Legal Process: Mock Trial and Moot Court
PSCI 289. Colloquium in Law and Politics.
PSCI 289.1. Law, Politics, and Sustainable Development
PSCI 290.2. Legal Writing.
PSCI 290.3. The Rule of Law.
PSCI 295W. Internship in Law and Advocacy
PSCI 382W. Seminar in Law and Politics. (4 credits)
SOC 209. Criminal Justice.
SOC 217. Crime and Juvenile Delinquency.
SOC 247. Sociology of Law
URBST 225. Urban Criminal Justice System.
URBST 226. Drugs and Criminal Justice.
URBST 228. Domestic Violence and Criminal Justice.
URBST 229. Employment and Labor Law.
URBST 246. Human Resources and Law.

3.   **Linguistics and Communication Disorders**

Change in title:

From:

LCD 240, ~~Second Language Acquisition and Teaching~~.

3 hr., 3 cr. Prerequisite: LCD 101, Corequisite LCD 341.

To read: <u>Multilingual Language Development</u>.

3 hr., 3 cr. Prerequisite: LCD 101, Corequisite LCD 341.

4.   Art

a.   Change in number and prerequisite.

From

DESN ~~286~~. Interaction Design. 4 hr.; 3 cr. Prereq.: ~~DESN 241~~ and ~~DESN 242~~. Students create relationships between people, products, and services (from computers to mobile devices, appliances and beyond) through research, analysis, prototyping, and design.

To

DESN <u>222.</u> Interaction Design. 4 hr.; 3 cr. Prereq.: <u>DESN 190</u> and <u>DESN 191</u>. Students create relationships between people, products, and services (from computers to mobile devices, appliances and beyond) through research, analysis, prototyping, and design. <u>Not open to students who have received credit for DESN 286.</u>

b.   Change in prerequisite.

To

DESN 263. App Design. 4 hr.; 3 cr. Prereq.: <u>DESN 222.</u> Students will gain skills designing applications (apps) from ideation to high-resolution prototypes ready for development. We will cover user-centered and other research methods, ideation, prototyping, user experience, flow maps, wireframes, interactive prototypes, visual design, brand creation, and presentation.

c.   New course.

DESN 194 Risograph Printing
4 hrs., 3 cr. Prereq.: DESN 190 and DESN 191.
Risograph printing and how it compares to other printing methods such as silkscreen and offset lithography. Students will become familiar with the technical aspects and unique abilities of Risograph printing as they design and print various projects such as posters, zines, cards, and promotional flyers.

c.   New course.

DESN 320 Brand Identity
 4 hr., 3 cr.; Prereq.: DESN 241
Exploration of how brand identities systems are created to visually represent organizations, products and services to their audiences and users. Through individual projects students will develop logos, typography, color schemes, and other design elements to create brand identity systems, and sets of guidelines for how

these various attributes are used in the design of products, packaging, digital interface design, social media, and other communications.

d.   PROPOSED CHANGES TO MAJOR

DESN222 (Interaction Design) replaces DESN214 (Design 1) as a core requirement of the major. DESN214 (Web Design 1) converts to a lower-level design elective within the Design major.

Justification:
In response to the changing needs of the industry and in keeping competitive with leading design programs the Design major replaces DESN214 with DESN222.

All other proposed changes have been submitted to UCC and the Academic Senate

PROPOSED CHANGES TO MINOR ARTGD-MIN Graphic Design
DESN173 has been added as an approved elective as the content introduces skills and trends in graphic design. ARTS243 - Color and Design II ARTS244 - Color I have been removed.

CHANGES TO BULLETIN

ARTD-BFA Design

To
Major Requirements - Design Courses
Type - Completion Requirement
Complete ALL of the following Courses:
• ARTS151 - Drawing I OR DESN188 Illustration I
• DESN190 - Design Foundations
• DESN191 - Basic Software for Design
• DESN193 - Motion Graphics I
• DESN 222 - Interaction Design
• DESN241 - Design I
• DESN242 - Typography I
• DESN245 - Typography II
• DESN246 - Design II
• DESN345 - Design III
• DESN395 - Senior Capstone

Major Requirements - Electives
Type - Completion Requirement
Complete at least 8 of the following courses:
DESN157 - Digital Moviemaking 1
ARTS171 - Color and Design I
DESN172 - Game Design
DESN173 - Shoot, Edit and Post
DESN187 - Graphic Novel I
DESN188 - Illustration I
DESN192 - Storyboarding & Storytelling
DESN194 - Risograph Printing
DESN195 - Photoshop Basics
DESN205 - Photoshop Color
DESN207 - Introduction to Video Editing I

ARTS210 - Introduction to Adobe Flash
DESN211 - Introduction to Adobe Illustrator
ARTS212 - Introduction to Adobe Dreamweaver
DESN213 - 3D Modeling
DESN215 - Traditional Animation
DESN217 - Digital Moviemaking II
DESN221 - VT: Video Graphics and Compositing
DESN247 - Graphic Novel II
DESN248 - Book Design and Production
DESN249 - Creative Coding
DESN250 - Design Thinking
DESN259 - Illustration II
DESN263 - App Design
DESN266 - Children's Book Illustration
DESN269 - Information Design
DESN270 - Data Visualization
DESN277 - VT: Pixel-based Imagery
DESN278 - VT: Vector-Based Imagery
DESN279 - Animation and 3-D Modeling
ARTS287 - VT: Moviemaking
DESN289 - Publication Design
DESN290 - Motion Graphics II
DESN296 - Advertising Design
DESN314 - Web Design II
DESN320 - Brand Identity
DESN347 - Graphic Novel III
DESN359 - Illustration Portfolio
DESN370 - VT: Special Topics in Design
ARTS393 - Independent Internship
Four of the eight electives must be taken from the upper-division courses, ARTS 247 or higher.

ARTGD-MIN Graphic Design

To
Type - Completion Requirement
Complete ALL of the following Courses:
DESN190 - Design Foundations
DESN191 - Basic Software for Design
DESN241 - Design I
Complete at least 4 of the following courses:
DESN173 – Shoot Edit Post
DESN188 - Illustration I
DESN193 - Motion Graphics I
DESN207 - Introduction to Video Editing I
DESN213 - 3D Modeling
DESN214 - Web Design I
DESN222 - Interaction Design
DESN242 - Typography I
~~ARTS243 - Color and Design II~~
~~ARTS244 - Color I~~
DESN245 - Typography II
DESN246 - Design II

DESN248 - Book Design and Production
DESN250 - Design Thinking
DESN263 - App Design
DESN269 - Information Design
DESN286 - Interaction Design
DESN289 - Publication Design
DESN290 - <u>Motion Graphics II</u>
DESN296 - Advertising Design
DESN314 - Web Design II
<u>DESN320 - Brand Identity</u>
DESN370 - VT: Special Topics in Design
ARTS393 - Independent Internship

ARTID-MIN Interaction Design

To
Complete at least 7 of the following courses:
DESN157 - Digital Moviemaking 1
DESN188 - Illustration I
DESN190 - Design Foundations
DESN191 - Basic Software for Design
DESN192 - Storyboarding & Storytelling
DESN193 - <u>Motion Graphics I</u>
DESN195 - Photoshop Basics
DESN205 - Photoshop Color
DESN207 - Introduction to Video Editing I
DESN211 - Introduction to Adobe Illustrator
ARTS212 - Introduction to Adobe Dreamweaver
DESN213 - 3D Modeling
DESN214 - Web Design I
DESN215 - Traditional Animation
DESN217 - Digital Moviemaking II
DESN221 - VT: Video Graphics and Compositing
<u>DESN222 - Interaction Design</u>
ARTS243 - Color and Design II
DESN249 - Creative Coding
DESN263 - App Design
<u>DESN270 - Data Visualization</u>
DESN277 - VT: Pixel-based Imagery
DESN278 - VT: Vector-Based Imagery
DESN279 - Animation and 3-D Modeling
ARTS287 - Variable Topics: Moviemaking
DESN290 - <u>Motion Graphics II</u>
DESN314 - Web Design II
DESN370 - VT: Special Topics in Design
ARTS393 - Independent Internship

ARTSAI-MIN - Animation and Illustration

To
Minor Requirements - Required Course

Type - Completion Requirement
Complete at least 7 of the following courses:
ARTS151 - Drawing I
DESN190 - Design Foundations
DESN191 - Basic Software for Design
DESN192 - Storyboarding & Storytelling
DESN187 - Graphic Novel I
DESN188 - Illustration I
DESN193 - <u>Motion Graphics I</u>
<u>DESN194 - Risograph Printing</u>
DESN205 - Photoshop Color
DESN207 - Introduction to Video Editing I
<u>DESN210 - Character Animation</u>
DESN213 - 3D Modeling
DESN215 - Traditional Animation
DESN221 - VT: Video Graphics and Compositing
<u>DESN222 - Interaction Design</u>
DESN247 - Graphic Novel II
DESN259 - Illustration II
DESN266 - Children's Book Illustration
DESN277 - VT: Pixel-based Imagery
DESN278 - VT: Vector-Based Imagery
DESN279 - Animation and 3-D Modeling
DESN290 - <u>Motion Graphics II</u>
DESN347 - Graphic Novel III
DESN359 - Illustration Portfolio
DESN370 - VT: Special Topics in Design
ARTS393 - Independent Internship

5.   **Accounting**

1. Change to a Major: ACCT- BBA - Advanced Accounting

Change in major courses

From:
~~Required Course~~ **with Description**
Junior Standing or Above
Law and Taxation
~~**ACCT 362 (362W). Business Law II**. 3 hr.; 3 cr. Prereq.: ACCT 261, ENGL 110, and sophomore standing. The law relating to forms of business organizations. Focus centers on agency and partnership relationships, corporate structure, and the role of government in business. Also considered are landlord relationships and bailments.~~

To Read:
<u>Elective Course</u> **with Description**
Sophomore Standing or Above
Law and Taxation
ACCT 362 (362W). Business Law II. 3 hr.; 3 cr. Prereq.: ACCT 261, ENGL 110, and sophomore standing. The law relating to forms of business organizations. Focus centers on agency and partnership relationships, corporate structure, and the role of government in business. Also considered are landlord relationships and bailments.

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2. Change to a Major: ACCT- BBA - Advanced Accounting

Change in major courses

From:

~~Elective Course~~ **with Description**
Junior Standing or Above
Accounting
~~ACCT 385. Data Analytics for Accountants. 3 hr.;~~ ~~3 cr. Coreq.: ACCT 202. The course utilizes various data-analytic tools (Excel, IDEA, "R," Python, Tableau, XBRL) used by accountants and CPAs in auditing, taxation, and consulting services. The emphasis is on hands-on learning by completing projects in the classroom and for homework to develop the data-analytic skills valued by employers. An elective course for the major in Accounting and Information Systems will satisfy either the "A (Accounting)" or "B (Business or Economics)" elective category.~~

To Read:

<u>Required Course</u> **with Description**
Junior Standing or Above
Accounting
ACCT 385. Data Analytics for Accountants. 3 hr.; 3 cr. Coreq.: ACCT 202. The course utilizes various data-analytic tools <u>and software </u>used by accountants <u>to transform, extract, load, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize large data sets</u>.   The emphasis is on hands-on learning by completing projects in the classroom and for homework to develop the data-analytic skills valued by employers.

6.   Computer Science and Linguistics

a.   Proposal for a new BA in Computational Linguistics
        Offered jointly with the Linguistics and Communications Disorders department

Preamble

Computational linguistics (CL) is a rapidly expanding field, and there is steady and strong demand for CL majors in industry. We envision this major as a way to better serve our UG student population and grow enrollment by leveraging two pre-existing resources of the College, namely our strong programs in formal Linguistics and Computer Science. Below, we sketch a set of required and elective courses from Computer Science (CSCI) and Linguistics and Communication Disorders (LCD) comparable to those in BA programs in CL at other North American institutions. This program is deliverable using existing staff resources, but we hope to support this program further in future hiring in LCD. We are prepared to handle undergraduate advising for this program within LCD. The program consists of 39 credits. Proposed required and elective courses are listed below. The three new courses to be developed to support this program are labeled as such below.

Required courses (33 cr.)

• LCD 151 Methods in Computational Linguistics I [NEW]
• LCD 251 Methods in Computational Linguistics II [NEW]
• MATH 114, Elementary Probability & Statistics
    or MATH 241, Introduction to Probability & Mathematical Statistics
• CSCI 366, Natural Language Processing *(Prereq for CL students 151, 251, 357; for CSCI students CSCI 313)*
• CSCI 357, Corpus Analysis [NEW] *(Prereq for CL students 151 and 251; for CSCI students CSCI 313)*

• LCD 101, Introduction to Language
• LCD 116, Morphology
• LCD 120, Syntax I
• LCD 150, Phonetics
• LCD 220, Syntax II
• LCD 250, Phonology

Electives (6 cr.)6
• CSCI 381, Applied Machine Learning for Natural Language Processing *(Prereq CSCI 313)*
• CSCI 313, Data Structures *(Prereq CSCI 211, 212 and 220)*
• CSCI 325, Machine Learning *(Prereq CSCI 313)*
• CSCI 363, Artificial Intelligence *(Prereq CSCI 313)*
• LCD 306, Semantics & Pragmatics
• LCD 360, Issues in Linguistic research
• LCD 209, Language and Mind
• LCD 259, Sociolinguistics
• LCD/ANTH 281, Discourse analysis

b.   New courses for Computational Linguistics

LCD 151. Methods in Computational Linguistics I
3 hr., 3 cr.
An introductory course for students in the Computational Linguistics (CL) sequence or those students who wish to learn about Python and its application to Natural Language Processing (NLP). The course will introduce the students to basic Linux commands and programming concepts in Python, focusing on techniques required to work with natural language data. The students will learn about standard corpora used in NLP and CL. The students will write simple Python programs for processing and analyzing language corpora and will perform various linguistic and statistical analysis of the natural language data. The course will also introduce data structures and algorithms that are used to describe and analyze language data.

LCD 251. Methods in Computational Linguistics II
3 hr., 3 cr. **Prereq.: LCD 151**
The second course in the sequence for Computational Linguistics (CL) students and Computer Science students who wish to take courses in Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning. The course will include more advanced topics on data structures and algorithms that are used in NLP, basic algorithms for NLP tasks, including supervised machine learning for part-of-speech tagging, parsing, classification. The students will write simple programs using existing tools and corpora, and will learn how to evaluate the performance using standard NLP evaluation methods.

CSCI 357. Corpus Analysis
3 hr., 3 cr. Prereq,: CSCI 313 (for CSCI majors), 151 and 251 (for CL majors)
Introduction to tools and methods used in Computational Linguistics and Natural Language Processing (NLP). The students will learn about basic NLP tasks (part-of-speech tagging, tokenization, parsing, entity recognition, sentiment analysis) and how to perform these tasks and train machine learning models, using off-the-shelf software (NLTK, sckit-learn, spaCy, pytorch, etc.).

c.   New course

CSCI 382VT. Software Systems Practicum.
3 hr., 3 cr. Prerequisite: CSCI 313 and department permission.
Introduction to the pragmatic aspects of the implementation of commercially utilized software systems. Example systems may include: database management systems, distributed systems, orchestration systems, and

virtualization. Best practices in the design, implementation, documentation, and maintenance of the specified software system will be learned through a series of hands-on projects, typically culminating in a final project. Software purchase may be required. May be repeated for credit when topic differs. May be applied once to meet computer science degree requirements.

7.   Economics

a.   New course.

BUS 101 - Personal Finance and Investment. 3 hr.; 3 cr. *Description*: This course aims to provide all students with a basic understanding of tools and methods to assist in making personal financial decisions responsibly. Topics covered include: career planning (including college major and occupation choice), budgeting, overview of financial institutions/services, borrowing/lending (including home and auto purchases), tax considerations, insurance, investing (e.g. stocks/bonds, mutual funds, ETFs, real estate investment), and savings and retirement planning. Importantly, the course will cover not only how personal finance decisions impact the wellbeing and happiness of individuals, but also how they impact the wellbeing of society and how access to personal finance knowledge can transform individuals and economies.

b.   Change requirement for Corporate Finance Concentration of Finance BBA Major offered by the Department of Economics.

To (Proposed new language)

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FINANCE MAJOR (MAJOR CODE FINAN-BBA; CONCENTRATION CODE FIN-CORP)

Corporate Finance Concentration: 21 credits

Required: BUS 101: Personal Finance; BUS 341W: Intermediate Finance; BUS 350: Investment Analysis.

TWO ELECTIVES FROM GROUP 1:
BUS 250: Financial Statement Analysis for Non-accountants
BUS 351: Financial Markets
BUS 352: Investment Management
BUS 353: Options and Futures *or*
RM 705 – Risk Transfer to Financial Markets

BUS 354: Multinational Financial Management
BUS 356: Applied Financial Analysis *or*
RM 711 – Applied Financial Analysis
BUS 386: Financial Econometrics

TWO ELECTIVES FROM GROUP 2:
ECON 201: Intermediate Macro
ECON 215: Money and Banking
ECON 229: History of International Business
ECON 301: Economics of Crypto-Assets
ECON 302: Blockchain and Money
BUS 390: Machine Learning in Business
FIN 305: Foundations of FinTech
Globalization and Environment Electives

5b. Nominating Committee

    i.   MOTION: Duly made by Kevin L. Ferguson:

        "To accept the Nominating Committee report dated February 8, 2024"

    Hearing no objection to the motion, the Chair moved unanimous consent.

1) Policy Board on Administration

The following faculty member was elected with unanimous consent:

Karen Weingarten	Arts & Humanities	Dec 2025

2) Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

The following faculty member was elected with unanimous consent:

Michelle Fraboni	Education	Dec 2025

3) Dean Search Committee: School of Business

The following faculty members were elected with unanimous consent:

Ivy Huang	Social Sciences	Until the search is over
Eric Rosano	Social Sciences	Until the search is over
David Gabel	Social Sciences	Until the search is over
Natalia Londono	Social Sciences	Until the search is over

The following student members were elected with unanimous consent:

Bernard Tetteh-Dumanya	Social Sciences	Until the search is over
Ilsa Tahir	Social Sciences	Until the search is over
Andreia Duarte	Social Sciences	Until the search is over
Sujal Kumar	Social Sciences	Until the search is over

6. Old Business: (none)

7. New Business:

7a. University Faculty Senate Nominations

    i.   MOTION: Duly made by Kevin L. Ferguson:

        "To nominate Karen Sullivan and Concettina Pagano to the University Faculty Senate"

Hearing no objection to the motion, the Chair moved unanimous consent.

*Note: There are still two vacant alternate seats on the Queens College delegation to the University Faculty Senate.

7b. Election of faculty member to Executive Committee

    i.   The Chair accepted nominations for the **Executive Committee**:

    The following faculty member was nominated from the floor:

        Theresa Gurl

Seeing no further nominations, the Chair asked the Secretary to cast one ballot for the nominee.

7c. Classroom Recording Policy

    ii.   MOTION: Duly made by Kevin L. Ferguson:

    "To adopt the Classroom Recording Policy"

    Hearing no objection to the motion, the Chair moved unanimous consent.

Queens College Classroom Recording Policy

Audio or video recordings of all or parts of classes at Queens College may not be made without permission from the course instructor(s).

The Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Special Services may provide for the recording of classes on behalf of a student receiving disability accommodations, missing class due to religious beliefs, or experiencing extended absence due to medical or other exigent circumstances.

The Queens College Classroom Recording Policy applies to both students and visitors. Students and visitors are not authorized to copy, download, or disseminate authorized recordings to others. Students in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary action, and visitors in violation of this policy are subject to removal from the classroom and/or campus.

7d. Open Letter protesting the firing of 26 Full-Time Faculty

    i.   MOTION: Duly made by Senator, Clare Carroll, Comparative Literature:

    "To endorse the Open Letter protesting the firing of 26 Full-Time Faculty"

    Hearing an objection to the motion, discussion followed.

    ii.   MOTION: Duly made by Kevin L. Ferguson:

    "To call the question"

Motion i failed. (yes 26, no 1, abstain 4)

To sign on to the letter, click this link and enter your name and your role at Queens College: https://forms.gle/EdCzxhodhb2cTNrf7

Open Letter: Queens College Fires 26 Full-Time Faculty Two Weeks Before the Semester Starts

Dear President Wu, Chancellor Matos Rodríguez, and CUNY Board of Trustees:

On Wednesday morning, January 10, just two weeks before the start of the spring semester, Queens College President Frank Wu fired 26 lecturers from twenty departments. 1,623 students are currently enrolled in the 79 courses these faculty were slated to teach this spring, leaving them with no instructor. The fired faculty members are in full-time positions that were expected to last one or two years. Called "substitute" positions, they are normally offered to experienced and valued instructors who were formerly in adjunct positions. Mass firing of these faculty in the middle of the academic year is unprecedented.

The lecturers, who have already spent countless hours preparing their classes for spring semester, have lost their full-time jobs (and health insurance and other benefits) with virtually no notice. This abrupt and last-minute action will cause financial hardship for these dedicated teaching professionals and chaos in the departments that have lost key instructional staff. The timing of the decision means that most of these instructors will be unable to secure spring semester employment, since most higher educational institutions schedule spring courses in mid-fall. This decision, and its timing, are unconscionable.

Further, this decision demonstrates incredible disregard for Queens College students and the college's own goal of retaining students until graduation. Departments and department chairs must now scramble to adjust course schedules so that required classes still run, lest students lose necessary courses for graduation in the spring. Queens College students come from a variety of backgrounds, but many hold jobs and have family responsibilities. They are not students living in a dorm, enjoying the luxury of only attending college. They register for courses and plan their work schedules, their child care, and the rest of their lives around specific courses during a few weekdays. These last-minute disruptions will leave students unable to reschedule to another time. The College's decision sends a clear message: Queens College is on the verge of collapse, and fires faculty at the last minute, causing havoc with the class schedule. Why would students stay at Queens College?

The flimsy rationale for the mass layoff is a new demand by the CUNY administration that Queens College maintain a budgetary surplus of $1.5 million. CUNY's Chief Financial Officer, apparently responsible for the demand, was appointed less than four months ago and has no experience in higher education. QC had previously submitted - as required - a budget plan that eliminated the college's deficit; however, this budget plan - which would have required no faculty or staff firings - was not approved because under the newly appointed CFO, QC was required to submit a new budget that not only closed the budget gap but also created a budgetary *surplus*. Faculty are losing their jobs and health insurance, and students and departments are made to scramble so that our campus can have a financial "cushion," when it's not even clear why the College needs one. President Wu knew CUNY Central's budget cuts for Queens might lead to

this radical step. He quietly instructed his financial team not to add their approval to routine hiring paperwork for these faculty. Yet, he did not say a word to department chairs until the firings were finalized, and included academic deans only in the last hours, after the decision had been made. This secrecy and lack of transparency is compounded by the last-minute nature of the decision-making: it is unprofessional and damaging to the institution.

The firings come in the wake of decades of under-investment in faculty recruitment at Queens College. Retiring or departing full-time faculty have often been replaced by part-time faculty who, although highly-skilled professionals, cannot maintain program continuity. Instead of taking a stand against deepening economic austerity for Queens College, President Wu has accommodated to normalized scarcity. His decision to fire 26 full-time faculty sends the message to the CUNY Board of Trustees and New York State legislators that the College can absorb not only this budget cut but any future cuts. Worse, he has delivered the required surplus by attacking the most vulnerable. As faculty, staff, students, and alumni who are outraged by the reckless firing of valued colleagues and the disregard for students' education, we need to see evidence that President Wu is on the side of Queens College, not the new CFO.

We demand:

1. Queens College rehire all 26 people on substitute lines and reinstate their classes.
2. President Wu speak out publicly against these cuts and the harm they are doing to our campus. We need CUNY and NY State to invest more funding in our campus if we want to retain our students and see enrollment increase.
3. President Wu start being more transparent about the financial state of our college. The Queens College community deserves a transparent explanation of why CUNY is crushing our campus, and how the Queens College administration plans to push back against this austerity.

      MOTION: Duly made by Chair Ferguson

      "To Adjourn"

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m. The next Academic Senate meeting will be on Thursday, March 14, 2024.