

**Queensborough Community College
Academic Senate**

To: Prof. Kathleen Villani, Secretary, Steering Committee
From: Dr. Rosemary Iconis, UFS representative, for QCC
Date: 20, March 2007

**The 327th Plenary Session of the University Faculty Senate
The City University of New York
Tuesday, March 20th, 2007, 6:30 p.m.**

I. Approval of the agenda and minutes

II. Invited Guest – Chancellor Matthew Goldstein

- A. Overall, we are in a strong position regarding the Governor’s new budget.
- B. The Mayor’s preliminary budget had numerous problems regarding community colleges.
- C. The College of Staten Island is conducting a search for a new president.
- D. Questions/Comments from the Senate:
 - 1. A concern was addressed that we are changing the direction of the University to favor the more privileged and/or academically prepared at the expense of the less privileged and/or academically prepared.
 - 2. Suggestion was made that, in the near future, Chancellor Goldstein share his reflections on how he sees the University evolving.
 - 3. Suggestion was made that we might need an assessment tool to evaluate the performance of the administrators throughout the University.
 - 4. Question was posed as to why the Chancellor’s Intellectual Property Committee has not met for one year.
 - 5. Comment was made that Doctoral Programs, other than those in the sciences, need to be enhanced to be more competitive with other universities.

III. Vice Chancellor Shaeffer - Discussion of the Policy Regarding the Disposition of Allegations of Misconduct in Research and Similar Educational Activities and CUNY Conflict of Interest Policy

A. Regarding the Conflict of Interest Policy

In Vice Chancellor Shaeffer's view, Parts 1 and 2 are fairly straight forward and non-controversial. The third part of it is an anti-nepotism policy. Specific questions that may arise need to be reviewed.

These policies will be brought to the Bard this June if at all possible.

B. Questions/Comments from the Senate

1. Verification that faculty may not accept gifts from students (CUNY's official policy)
2. Several individuals suggested that legal officers other than administrators should be those in the position to judge questions of conflict of interest.
3. Questions as to whether the Conflict of Interest Policy applies to the Board of Trustees. It does not. They are to adopt their own policy.
4. Question came up about the right of a faculty member to assign his or her own books in a class. Vice-Chancellor Shaeffer sees no problem with the practice legally or ethically. An exception was noted regarding a Department Coordinator who insisted that her book be required for all classes.

IV. Professor Beaky reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy – presented in written form

V. Individuals from CUNY's Executive Committee met with those from SUNY. Susan O'Malley and Lenore Beaky reported on the meeting.

- A. The de-professionalization of community colleges
- B. Getting college programs back into the prisons
- C. National Center for Academic Transformation – Their foci can be reviewed online.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.