

PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Final Report **May 2021**

Members:

Ms. Susan Agin, Executive Director, QPAC, Institutional Advancement
Dr. Arthur Corradetti, Task Force Chair, Dean for Institutional Effectiveness, Academic Affairs
Dr. Steven Dahlke, Chair, Academic Senate Steering Committee
Mr. Stephen Di Dio, Vice President & Chief Marketing & Communication Officer (ex officio)
Dr. Margot Edlin, Chair, Faculty Executive Committee
Ms. Elaine Ioannou, Executive Assistant to the President
Ms. Amaris Matos, Executive Advisor to the President for Equity
Prof. Georgia McGill, Chair, Speech Communication & Theatre Arts
Ms. Tikola Russell, Assistant Dean for Student Development/Conduct, Student Affairs
Mr. Arnab Sharma, Executive Vice President, SGA
Ms. Ronni Weprin, Special Events Coordinator, Institutional Advancement

Academic Search consultants:

Ms. Maya Ranchod Kirkhope
Dr. Tessa Martinez Pollack

The President's Task Force on Community Engagement was constituted in September 2020 to assist President Christine Mangino with the first year of her tenure as president. At the direction of the CUNY chancellor, two consultants from Academic Search, Ms. Maya Ranchod Kirkhope and Dr. Tessa Martinez Pollack, were contracted to work with the task force to provide context and insight into the transition process that presidents undergo and to help to make the task force's efforts as helpful as possible to President Mangino.

Over the course of the fall 2020 semester, the task force's role evolved. Given that the college needed to develop a new strategic plan, that higher level planning was recommended in the MSCHE self-study process two years prior, and that an Academic Master Plan process had been left incomplete, the task force became a strategic planning steering committee. As such, it led a campus-wide planning process through spring 2021, resulting in the development of a strategic framework and goals for the next five years.

Key activities that the task force coordinated and led during the strategic planning process included:

Campus-wide survey

Distributed on November 9, 2020; over 430 faculty and staff members responded; task force teams reviewed the responses and distilled the extensive feedback into six overall themes:

campus culture, curriculum and instruction, academies, facilities, funding, and external community relationships; feedback from the survey provided additional context to the presidential address, on November 24.

Open forums to launch the strategic planning process

Hosted on February 24 and 25, 2021; about 320 faculty and staff members participated. The six overall themes were unveiled to the campus; a PowerPoint on equity gaps was presented, emphasizing that the theme of equity would guide all strategic planning efforts; the strategic planning process was explained; breakout sessions provided opportunities for discussion of the overall themes and for further feedback about campus concerns and possible activities to address concerns and equity issues.

Survey on values

Distributed March 9, 2021; almost 190 faculty and staff members responded. Based on feedback from the open forums about the values to which we should aspire, a survey was conducted, asking the campus community to rank the values that appeared with the highest frequency; of the 10 choices ranked, the top four were respect, inclusivity, compassion, and responsibility (“meaningful work” scored just below “responsibility”); this will form the basis for a values and/or vision statement to complement the strategic planning framework.

Theme Weeks

Three theme weeks were hosted, Theme Week 1 on Campus Culture, March 15 and 19, 2021; Theme Week 2 on Curriculum and Instruction, March 24 and 25; Theme Week 3 on the Academies, April 5 and 6. About 280 faculty and staff members participated over the three weeks.

Strategic plan retreat

Nearly fifty VPs, deans, chairs, and program directors participated in the retreat on April 16, 2021. Participants reviewed draft goals, provided helpful input, and responded to questions about possible measures and activities to help the college to achieve its goals. Notes from the retreat were used to modify the draft goals and to articulate sample measures, one for each theme. The retreat was the final step of the planning process in the spring.

The presentation of this report and the strategic planning framework, with goals and sample measures, to the Academic Senate for its meeting on May 11 marks the conclusion of the task force’s work.