

**QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Faculty Executive Committee**

To: Academic Senate  
From: Faculty Executive Committee  
Subject: Proposal for Consideration of the Academic Senate

**Academic Senate Resolution Proposing a College Policy on Upper Seat Limits for Fully Online Classes**

Whereas, the College is committed to providing support for classes producing their learning outcomes, and

whereas, the College has already acknowledged how the size of a class is related to how well those outcomes can be produced, and

whereas, it is already a college policy as adopted by the Academic Senate to set seat limits for Writing Intensive classes, and

whereas, most fully online classes involve a great deal of writing, and

whereas, fully online classes involve instructors establishing and maintaining their presence in the course in a variety of ways, and

whereas, faculty student interaction in a fully online class is an important feature for successful outcomes, and

whereas, in May 2010 the Academic Senate adopted the four resolutions from the Special Committee on Distance Education indicating support for students and instructors in online classes and the right of academic departments alone to determine such matters as which courses should have fully or partly online sections,

Be it therefore resolved, that it is the right of academic departments alone to determine the upper seat limits for fully online classes offered by that academic department.

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NOTE : the documents from the Senate:

- (1) Agenda of the May 12, 2010 with report and recommendations of the Special Committee on Distance Education that went to the Senate and was adopted Here is the monthly report with its proposals: [https://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/docs/ay2009-10/May\\_2010/Attachment-I.pdf](https://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/docs/ay2009-10/May_2010/Attachment-I.pdf)
- (2) Approved Minutes of the Senate meeting of May 12, 2010 with the remarks and votes [https://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/docs/ay2010-11/September\\_2010/Attachment-A.pdf](https://www.qcc.cuny.edu/governance/academicSenate/docs/ay2010-11/September_2010/Attachment-A.pdf)
- (3) Here are the pertinent lines from those minutes:

662 Special Committee on Distance Education ( Attachment I – RESOLUTION)

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664 • Dr. Volchok presented the four resolutions from the Special Committee  
665 on Distance Education, to which President Marti requested clarification  
666 regarding appropriate support from VP of Academic Affairs, Dean Steele  
667 and Provost & Senior VP Diane Call.

668 Resolutions:

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670 1. Acknowledge that quality online education cannot take place without appropriate support for  
students,

671 faculty, and infrastructure and take appropriate action to meet the needs of students and faculty.

672 a. Such support for students entails: 1) An appropriate orientation so that they understand the  
673 requirements for online courses before they register and have the basic skills needed to succeed  
674 in online courses, and 2) Appropriate support while they are enrolled in online courses.

675 b. Such support for faculty entails appropriate assistance in the development, management,  
676 assessment, and continuing review of courses using distance education technologies.

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678 •A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve resolution #1.

679 (Attachment I of the May 11, 2010 Agenda). There were two negative votes from

680 Senators Stuart Asser and Ann Tullio, and three abstentions from Senators

681 David Klarberg, Anthony Kolios, and Jonathan Shakhmoroff.

682

683 2. Affirm the right of academic departments alone to:

684 Determine which courses should have fully or partly online sections,

685 Determine which faculty members are eligible to teach online courses, and

686 Establish prerequisites for students to meet before taking online courses; such prerequisites

687 would undergo review by the Curriculum Committee and the Academic Senate.

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689 Academic Senate Agenda—September 21, 2010—Attachment A 24

690 • A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve resolution #2.

691 (Attachment I of the May 11, 2010 Agenda). There were two negative votes from

692 Senators Jonas Falik and Margaret Reilly, and one abstention from Senator

693 Oliver Baguldy. 694 695 3. Direct the College Personnel & Budget Committee—when making  
696 decisions regarding

696 reappointment, tenure, and promotion—to recognize the contributions made by faculty who:

697 a. Develop and teach online courses

698 b. Publish research on online learning and teaching

699 c. Publish and disseminate materials related to online course instruction

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701 • A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve resolution #3.

702 (Attachment I of the May 11, 2010 Agenda). There were four negative votes from

703 Senators Stuart Asser, Jonas Falik, Bob Rogers and Gilmar Visoni.

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705 4. Provide adjunct faculty teaching online courses the same support provided to full-time faculty.

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707 • A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve resolution #4 with

708 amendment that adjunct be provided with the same support as full-time faculty.. 709

(Attachment I of the May 11, 2010 Agenda). There was one negative vote from

710 Senator Stuart Asser and two abstentions from Senators Paul Weiss and Oliver

711 Baguldy.

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