

LaGuardia Community College
Minutes for the College Senate Meeting

December 3, 2025

2:15-4:30 pm

E-500

Voting Senators

Tamoy Bloomfield (Student), Cristy Bruns (English), Jean Buckley Lockhart (Community, Health, and Wellness), Aimeelyn Calandria (President's Office), Loretta Capuano-Vella (At-Large Instructional Staff), Luke Cardaio (At-Large Instructional Staff), Thomas Cleary (Library), Janae Davis (Student), Jeanne Funk (MEC), Annette Hamilton (Division of Enrollment Management), Nabikul Hasan (Student), Abdul Hashim (At-Large Instructional Staff), Anam Hossain (Student), Givanni Ildefonso-Sanchez (ELA), Aowshaful Jafin (Student), Jill Kehoe (Social Science), Lloyd Klein (At-Large Adjunct), Garrett Morgan, Jr. (SGA), Thomas Onorato (Academic Affairs), Margaret O'Sullivan (Non-Instructional Staff), Anthony Pappas (Alumni Association), Maritza Pritsos (ACE), Patricia Quesada (Division of Administration), Sonika Rawal (Student), Nabina Sambahamphe (Student), Leslie Scamacca (Business & Technology), Roman Senkov (Natural Sciences), Samia Shadid (Student), Binita Shresha (Student), Patricia Sokolski (Humanities), Elizabeth Streich (Communication and External Affairs), Zaib Thoufeek (Student), John Toland (Faculty Council), Regina Varin-Mignano (Division of Student Affairs)

Non-Voting Senators and Guests

Caterina Almendral, Childerick Barthelus, Tameka Battle, Randy Changoo, Fatima Hehrar, Evelyn Lowmark, Harry Mars, Jhony Nelson, Bryan Reyes, John Smith, Derek Stadler, Dilrukshan Wijesinghe

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:19PM by Chairperson Cristy Bruns.

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without corrections.

III. Approval of the Minutes from November 12, 2025

The minutes were approved without corrections.

IV. Approval of Curriculum Committee Consent Calendar Items from November 6, 2025

A motion to approve the Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from November 6, 2025 was made by Senator Pappas. This was seconded by Senator Scamacca. **Vote: Aye-24, Nay-0, Abstain-0.** The Curriculum Committee consent calendar items from November 6, 2025 were approved.

V. Invitation of Childerick Barthelus, Director of Community Standards

Childerick Barthelus joined LaGuardia in August 2025 as the Director of Community Standards. He will oversee crisis response, behavioral interventions, and the implementation and facilitation of events related to student rights and responsibilities. He will serve as the Student Affairs liaison for all matters involving student policy violations and Public Safety. Mr. Barthelus reviewed the student intervention process and summary data of student behavior inquiries to his office.

VI. Invitation of Tameka Battle, Chief Academic Integrity Officer

Dr. Battle reviewed the number of academic integrity forms submitted from Fall 2024-Fall 2025, breaking down each semester by type of academic integrity violation and academic department. Dr. Battle collaborated with the Registrar's Office to develop an academic integrity complaint negative service indicator (AICV). Unresolved academic integrity complaints will prevent students from registration or transfer until they are resolved. The revised academic integrity complain form now includes a Chairperson checkbox for cases resolved between student and faculty member.

VII. Invitation of Jhony Nelson, Director of the Office of Accessibility and Regina Varin-Mignano, Director of Neurodiversity Program to Discuss Support for Neurodivergent Students

Jhony Nelson and Regina Varin-Mignano reviewed the programs developed to assist neurodiverse students at LaGuardia. Since 2024, ACCESS Pre-Employment Transition Services has worked to ensure meaningful and inclusive employment opportunities for all students with disabilities. Since 2013, Project REACH has promoted academic success and personal growth through skill building in executive functioning, self-regulation, social interaction, self-advocacy, and career readiness. From 2024 to 2025, enrollment in these programs grew from 134 to 247. Program successes include high retention rates and improved GPA.

VIII. Chair's Report

Please be informed of the Senate's attendance policy (see Chairperson Bruns's email). If you need to miss a Senate meeting for any reason, the absence will only be considered excused if you email the Senate Secretary or Chairperson before the meeting. Senators can be recalled for two unexcused absences in a row or for unexcused

absences in two out of three of the monthly Senate meetings. Should you be unable to attend a meeting, please also contact your alternate senator (if you are in a Senate seat with an assigned alternate).

During April spring break, CUNY will change the student email system. At that point, CUNYFirst will only use college email addresses and not personal email addresses.

The Executive Committee plans to invite VP Ben Rohdin to the January 14, 2026 Senate meeting to discuss enrollment and course scheduling.

There have been delays and difficulties finalizing the presentation of Staff Engagement Survey data. The data should be presented at Cabinet in December and then will be presented again at Senate afterward. In the future, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness Kevin Martin may get involved in streamlining the process.

CUNY's "Presentation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964," a video presentation that is part of the mandatory Title VI training, includes mischaracterizations of academic freedom. PSC, UFS, and CADHE agree that the distortion of academic freedom described in the video can have a chilling effect on free speech and classroom instruction. While changes have not yet been made, employees and faculty are encouraged to complete the training to remain in compliance with CUNY regulations.

Chairperson Bruns will be on sabbatical starting in February. Vice Chair Scamacca will serve as Interim Chair. The Senate will elect an Interim Vice Chair. Chairperson Bruns will return to her position on September 1st.

IX. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

- i. Committee on Committees (Elizabeth Streich, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- ii. Curriculum Committee (Dilrukshan Wijesinghe, Chair)
See above for curriculum approval.
- iii. The Academic Standing Committee (Caterina Almendral, Chair)
Lilla Töke will serve as co-chair alongside Caterina Almendral.
- iv. Committee on Campus Affairs (Evelyn Lowmark, Chair)

The committee examined a drone use policy and sent it back for further clarification.

- v. The Committee of Faculty (Thomas Cleary, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- vi. The Committee on Professional Development (Derek Stadler, Chair)
The Ruhma Choudhury Research Colloquium will take place in Spring.
Look for a request for presenters.
- vii. The Budget and Finance Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- viii. The Committee of Staff and Alumni (Anthony Pappas, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- ix. The Committee of Students (John Smith and Zaib Thoufeek, Co-Chairs)
Nothing to report.
- x. The Committee on Elections (Vacant, Chair)
Nothing to report.
- xi. The Executive Committee (Cristy Bruns, Chair)
See chair's report.
- xii. Transfer Committee (Alexa Duque and Misun Dokko, Co-Chairs)
Nothing to report.
- xiii. Food Insecurity, Justice, and Community Need Committee (Rebekah Johnson, Chair)
Nothing to report.

b. Ad Hoc Committees

- i. IT Advisory Committee (Jaime Riccio and Ian McDermott, Co-Chairs)
Nothing to report.
- ii. History Committee (Charles Keyes, Chair)
Nothing to report.

iii. Online Learning Committee (Joshua Tan and Michele De Goeas- Malone, Co-Chairs)

Nothing to report.

iv. Senate Assessment & Review Committee (Leslie Scamacca, Chair)

The Senate Assessment & Review Committee plans to meet with new Dean for Institutional Effectiveness Kevin Martin in January to discuss Senate assessment.

v. Faculty/Staff Ombuds Committee (Patricia Sokolski, Chair)

Nothing to report.

vi. Instructional Staff Handbook Revision Committee (Rochell Isaac, Chair)

Nothing to report.

X. Unfinished Business

None.

XI. New Business

None.

XII. Announcements

The Faculty Council auction will take place on Wednesday December 10th. Remember to pick up your pre-ordered plants.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26pm.

Next Meeting: January 14, 2026