

To: Members of the College Council
Date: March 21, 2017
From: Michael Sokolow, Secretary
Subject: Agenda for the Meeting of April 4, 2017

The College Council will meet on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 in Room M-240 at 3:00 PM.

AGENDA

- I. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on November 15, 2016
- II. Reports
 - A. President's Report
 - B. Students Committee Report

The Students Committee presents the following resolution concerning its bylaws and the College Council Constitution:

WHEREAS, the structure and organization of the College's Student Government have not been meaningfully reexamined or adjusted in more than four decades; and

WHEREAS, the current Student Government structure and organization model are outmoded and inconsistent with those in use at other CUNY colleges and higher education institutions nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the current organizational model is impeding Kingsborough from full participation and articulation with Student Government activities and councils in use across the University; be it

RESOLVED, That the following sections of the College Council Constitution be adjusted as follows, to reflect the new Student Government Association Constitution and Bylaws which shall be put in effect:

Article III, Section IV(a):

~~Student delegates shall be elected for one year terms as follows: two student delegates elected by each Constituency Council; with the balance to be elected by the general student body. Candidates must be students in good standing at the College and shall not be on academic or disciplinary probation.~~

Shall be replaced by:

Eligible student delegates shall be elected for one year terms in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the Kingsborough Community College Student Government Association.

Part B (Kingsborough Community College Student Constituency Councils, Articles I-IX):

The entire section [see Attachment A, p.4 of the Agenda] shall be deleted, and replaced by the following language:

B. Kingsborough Community College Student Government Association

There shall be a Student Government Association charged with promoting and protecting the interests of all students, and with ensuring appropriate student representation on all campus boards and committees requiring student members. The Student Government shall be structured and governed according to the provisions outlined in the Student Government Association constitution and bylaws, provided that all provisions within said documents remain consistent with policies set forth by the City University of New York Board of Trustees.

Part D (The President's Advisory Commission, Section F):

The College Council has the primary responsibility and control over amendments to its Constitution, ~~and likewise, the Student Constituency Councils have primary responsibility and control over amendments to their Constitution all such amendments, however, require the approval of the Board of Trustees.~~

Shall be replaced by:

The College Council has the primary responsibility and control over amendments to its Constitution, and all such amendments require the approval of the Board of Trustees. The Student Government Association shall have primary responsibility and control over amendments to its Constitution, per the provisions in the Student Government Association Constitution.

Appendix II: Constitution and Bylaws of Student Activities Committee:

The entire section [see Attachment A, p.4 of the Agenda] shall be deleted. It will be superseded by the Student Government Association Constitution and Bylaws.

And be it further RESOLVED that the number of twenty student delegates to the College Council as stated in Article III, Section I shall remain unchanged.

Note: Please see Attachment B on the last page of the Agenda (p.7) for a summary of the rationale and substance of the proposed changes to student governance. The summary was prepared by the Office of Student Life together with the Council's Committee on Students.

C. Legislative Committee Report

The Legislative Committee will administer the nomination and election of the following representatives to serve on the President's Task Force for Budget Recommendations along with appointed co-chair V.P. Ed Rios:

four (4) Faculty members

two (2) Student members

four (4) Staff members

with an additional three (3) Administrators who will be selected separately, not subject to College Council vote.

Task Force members will review the annual College Budget and share Budget information with their respective constituents. They will also convey budgetary recommendations through the committee to the President. Each member will serve a two-year term on the committee.

The faculty, staff, and student Task Force members listed above will be nominated and elected by the College Council, but these individuals do not need to be current Council members in order to serve. Opportunities to request nomination are available to all eligible interested parties by emailing or speaking to any Council representative, up until the April 4 Council session.

III. New Business

Attachment A: Sections to be deleted from the College Council Constitution

These include (1) Section B. (found in the Constitution following Article VI, p.viii-x); (2) the note marked “N.B.” (following Article IX on p.x); (3) and the section marked “Appendix II”. The Constitution may be viewed online at:

http://www.kingsborough.edu/sub-about/pdfs/Documents/college_council_constitution.pdf

(1) Section B. (found in the Constitution following Article VI, p.viii-x):

B. Kingsborough Community College Student Constituency Councils

CONSTITUTION OF THE CONSTITUENCY COUNCILS

ARTICLE I - NAME

In accordance with the rules designated by the Governance Plan, there shall be five (5) academic constituencies:

1. Business Constituency
2. Mathematics and Science Constituency
3. Liberal Arts Constituency
4. Public and Health Services Constituency
5. Evening Constituency

ARTICLE II - FUNCTION

In order to promote the interest and welfare of the students, these councils shall:

1. aid in freshman orientation with instructional programs;
2. be empowered to conduct student activities;
3. compose newsletters for instructional programs;
4. elect representatives to other bodies of the College;
5. authorize and regulate the expenditure of funds;
6. serve to receive complaints concerning instructional programs;
7. act as a liaison with the faculty;
8. increase communication between students and faculty on curriculum;
9. hold special events for instructional program;
10. charter student clubs and organizations.

These councils may make bylaws for their own operations consistent with this Constitution and the policies and regulations of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Day Session students shall be assigned to student constituencies based upon curricular affinity. Evening Session students and students taking the majority of their classes at night, shall be assigned to the Evening Constituency.

ARTICLE IV - ELIGIBILITY

A. General Participation

1. To be eligible for participation in student activities, a student must be officially registered in the College. Membership in student organizations is open to both full-time and part-time members of the College. Membership is open to both matriculated and non-matriculated students.

B. Officership

1. An individual shall have a cumulative index of 2.0 to be to hold office in his/her first year. A student in his/her second year shall have a cumulative index of 2.0.
2. At the time of nomination the individual is to be clear of probationary status.
3. Appeal of disciplinary probation will be to the Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline.

4. Faculty advisers have the responsibility of checking to see if academic credentials have been upheld. At this point there is a mandated meeting of the student and faculty adviser to access the advisability of his/her remaining in office. The decision shall rest with the student.

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS

- A. All students will participate in elections according to their curriculum affiliations.
- B. Elections shall be for the Executive Committee - President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer.
- C. Elections will take place the first week in May.
- D. Representatives will be appointed. A minimum of twenty-five (25) signatures of voters of the respective constituency on a petition is necessary to qualify for the position of constituency representative.
- E. The credentials will be presented at the first council meeting following their submission of credentials.
- F. The number of representatives shall be determined by the constituency.

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. President - The President shall preside at all council meetings. He may appoint members of that constituency to fill vacancies within the council. The President is empowered to sign all transfer of funds forms with the accompanying signature of the faculty adviser.
- B. Vice-President - The Vice-President shall act as an assistant to the President. He/she shall perform the duties of the President in the case that the President is absent. In the case of an extended absence of the President, the Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the President until his/her return.
- C. Secretary - The Secretary shall be required to notify all council members of meetings. He/she shall keep an accurate report of all meetings of the council and shall attend to all correspondence.
- D. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall have custody of all the funds and monies of the council. He/she shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures. He/she shall, together with the President, be empowered to sign for the transfer of funds.
- E. Representatives - Sophomore and freshman representatives shall act as a liaison between the students and the council.
- F. All officers of constituencies shall elect a person if a vacancy occurs.

(2) Also to be deleted is the following note on page x, following Article IX:

N.B. Consistent with the governance charter, there shall be organized a Student Activities Coordinating Board to facilitate and coordinate the activities of the Student Constituency Councils on student matters that are of a college-wide nature (e.g., chartering college-wide clubs, sponsoring inter-constituency activities). The coordinating Board shall consist of two representatives from each Constituency Council. Bylaws developed by each Student Constituency and the Student Activities Coordinating Board shall be submitted to the President of the College who shall consult with the Governance Commission before promulgating the bylaws.

(3) Also to be deleted is Appendix II (p.xv-xvi):

Appendix II. Constitution and Bylaws of Student Activities Committee

Purpose - To provide a vehicle to charter student organizations, assist those organizations in existence, and to initiate and encourage inter-constituency activities and programs between student councils, clubs and the general student population, through their related councils.

Bylaws -

1. Membership - Three (3) representatives from each student council to be appointed or elected by that council, representing their council to SAC. Their names shall be submitted in writing to the faculty advisor of SAC prior to the first general meeting.
2. Voting - Each council shall have three (3) votes, said votes being cast by the three (3) representatives. All votes must be cast in person (No proxies). Substitute representatives may be assigned by the councils, with their names being submitted in advance to the Chairperson. The Chairperson only votes in the event of

a tie. No less than 51% of those present and voting shall carry any issue except impeachment and amendments, which require a 2/3 vote.

3. Quorum - A minimum of seven (7) people shall constitute a quorum. The Chairperson is not counted in the consideration of the quorum. The council which the Chairperson represents may choose another representative for their council. There shall be no more than three (3) representatives from each Council.

4. Powers -

a) SAC shall review all proposed organizations and make recommendations to the Kingsborough Association.

b) Clubs seeking charter must go to their related councils for review and recommendation to SAC. Any club not recommended by SAC for a charter may come before SAC (through the councils) repeatedly so long as they make an effort to conform to requirements for chartered organizations. c) SAC shall have the power to revoke any club charter.

5. Meetings - Meetings will be called as required. Regular meetings shall be held once each month. Members of SAC must be notified at least one (1) week in advance, of all meetings in writing, except in special emergency circumstances. The Secretary will be responsible for this notification. Meetings will be called by the Chairperson.

6. Officers -

A. Duties of Officers: (All officers shall be voted on by SAC representatives)

1. Chairperson -

- a. Shall cause meetings to be called when appropriate.
- b. Shall chair all meetings.
- c. Shall encourage activities among councils, for clubs and for the general student population.
- d. Shall maintain a communication link to all organizations on campus.

2. Vice Chairperson -

- a. Shall chair all meetings when Chairperson is not present.
- b. Shall carry out those duties specifically assigned by Chairperson.

3. Secretary -

- a. Shall take minutes of all meetings.
- b. Shall maintain records of all chartered organizations and their memberships as well as their officers, faculty advisors and time and place of meetings.

4. Treasurer -

- a. Shall keep accurate records of all expenditures of SAC and divide costs among all councils when appropriate.

B. Term of Office - One full school year commencing in September. In the event an office becomes vacant, a replacement will be elected for the remainder of the term of office.

7. Parliamentarian - Faculty advisor shall act as parliamentarian.

8. Amendments - These Bylaws may be amended at a meeting consisting of a quorum consisting of at least one (1) voting member of each council. Any amendment must be submitted in writing to SAC at a meeting, discussed at that meeting and may not be voted on until the next regularly scheduled meeting and discussed again at that meeting. A 2/3 vote of those voting is needed to pass the amendment.

9. In the event that the body of SAC sees the necessity for an emergency meeting, they may petition such a meeting with a 51% vote of voting members.

10. All meetings, except executive sessions, are open to all spectators.

Attachment B: Notes from Student Government on Proposal of Consolidation and Governance Changes

**KCC Student Government Association Consolidation
College Council Notes**

Justification

- Due to the inclusion of so many details of Student Government in the campus governance plan, even routine updates to the Student Government constitution currently require a process extending from the students all the way to the Board of Trustees. This limits the students' autonomy in governance, and limits an ability to address issues within their organization, and makes it unnecessarily difficult for the organization to evolve.
- Throughout CUNY, governance plans reference the role of Student Government in campus governance, but do not include details of how the Student Government functions, allowing those student governments the autonomy to manage their organizations while maintaining their role in campus governance.

Consolidated Structure

- Under the consolidated structure, Student Government would become a single body with one executive board composed of seven officers and a senate with twelve members.
- Student representation on campus boards, committees, and councils (including College Council, KCC Association, KCC Auxiliary, and others) would remain unchanged, but Student Government would be free to determine the appropriate method for selecting these representatives.

Timeline

- Fall 2016 – Students discuss the possibility/feasibility of consolidation and begin discussion/research related to a consolidated structure.
- Winter 2017 – Constituency councils approve development of a tentative consolidation plan and begin meetings to determine the details of the consolidation.
- March – Student body Petition to hold a campus vote regarding consolidation.
- April 4 – Coll. Council removes SGA constitution from college governance plan.
- April 6 & 24 – Public hearings for students to learn about and provide feedback on consolidation.
- April 25-27 – Student vote regarding consolidation and directly-related issues.
- May 5 – All materials and documentation due to CUNY Board of Trustees.
- June 26 – CUNY Board of Trustees approval of updated governance plan and SGA consolidation.
- Fall 2017 – SGA nominations, campaigning, and elections for 2017-2018 academic year.