November 3, 2020

Library Senate Committee Meeting

Hostos Community College

Virtual Meeting through Zoom

Start Time: 12:30pm

End Time: 1:26pm

Present: Rodney Blair, Aaron Botwick, Denisse Feliz, Eddy Garcia, Iris Mercado, Linda Miles, Isabel Neira, Van Phan, Simona Prives, Lauren Wolf

1. INTRODUCTIONS
   1. Prof. Miles called the meeting to order, offered a special welcome to the student guests, and proposed a motion to accept the agenda. The proposal was approved.
   2. Prof. Miles proposed a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. The proposal was approved.
2. LIAISON REPORTS
   1. Prof. Botwick met with the English department liaison, Miriam Laskin, and will report at the next meeting. Prof. Blair has scheduled a meeting with the Allied Health department liaison, Lisa Tappeiner, and will report at the next meeting. Prof. Garcia from the Business department will also report at the next meeting.
3. FACULTY OUTREACH INITIATIVE
   1. The committee reviewed the “Did You Know?” initiative. Prof. Miles presented the current script for changes, comments, and suggestions.
   2. Prof. Garcia proposed that for the next meeting, each committee member make a video answering one of these questions. Prof. Miles clarified that the animation will not be realistic; students will be encouraged to use their creativity and make artistic decisions about the animation. For example, Prof. Miles might be reading the script but the animation “might be a man from outer space.”
   3. Prof. Van Phan asked if the *New York Times* is only available through the library website. Prof. Miles answered that the link to register for the *NYT* subscription can be found on the library website.
   4. Denisse Feliz suggested we make the videos a contest for the animation students. Prof. Miles said it is part of their classes.
4. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION/PARTICIPATION
   1. Prof. Miles said that some department representatives are unable to attend these meetings and asked for input on how to support their liaison role.
   2. Prof. Garcia suggested that those who cannot make the meetings should not be part of the committee. Like the senate, he said, we might have a limited number of absences. Prof. Miles responded that there is a need for some flexibility: unlike our committee, the Senate schedules their meetings ahead of time. She suggested that these members could serve on a subcommittee. Prof. Phan said non-attending members performing subcommittee work “may not be optimal,” since it sends new members onto the front lines before they have been in the back. Prof. Garcia agreed with Prof. Phan, and added that non-attending members could send a report on what they think about the initiative, which would be read aloud during a committee meeting.
   3. Prof. Botwick suggested that non-attending members could raise concerns through an attending member.
   4. Prof. Mercado noted that there are no classes scheduled on Tuesdays between 3:30 and 5:30 pm. Prof. Blair said he teaches on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 5-8pm.
   5. Denisse Feliz suggested that departments could appoint an auxiliary member to attend when the elected representative could not. Prof. Miles noted that we are governed by the bylaws of the college and will check if this is possible. Denisse Feliz disagreed with a “three times, you’re out” rule; she said members are appointed to this position and should be responsible for attending meetings. Prof. Blair added that this is complicated by members’ three-year appointments.
   6. Denisse Feliz suggested we use a Google Doc that non-attending members could edit when they’re unable to make meetings. Isabel Neira agreed with Denisse Feliz. Prof. Phan said this would create a “one-way conversation,” since we do not respond to their edits.
   7. Prof. Phan said that departments are losing when their representatives do not attend these meetings; it cuts off the line of communication. Prof. Blair suggested we inform chairs when their representative misses meetings.
   8. Prof. Mercado asked if we had scheduled the December meeting. Prof. Miles said no. Prof. Phan asked if we could schedule meetings after classes end. Prof. Miles said she believed so but worried about attendance. Prof. Phan suggested December 10 and Prof. Miles said she would include it in the Doodle Poll.
   9. Denisse Feliz asked if we could record our meetings and then ask non-attending members to respond to the recording. Prof. Miles said that a recording “might interrupt the free flow of our conversation” but said it could be considered. Prof. Garcia noted that this would once again be a one-way conversation. Prof. Miles clarified that the suggestion required they submit feedback. Prof. Blair agreed with Prof. Garcia and Phan and said it’s a one-way conversation. Denisse Feliz said the non-attending members would provide input before the meeting.
   10. Prof. Miles said she would speak to Prof. Griffin and put together a plan. She said that if she had to guess, it would involve speaking to the non-attending members’ chairs. Prof. Wolf said that sometimes the problem is that she is serving on eleven committees.
   11. Prof. Blair asked if students have access to other CUNY libraries, such as Hunter. Prof. Miles said that this could only be done through Interlibrary Loan, which is currently suspended. She noted that each library has its own databases in addition to CUNY-wide resources.
   12. Prof. Miles thanked all attendees, in particular the student guests.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Botwick