

COLLEGE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

MAY 19TH, 2025

DANIEL KANE, CHAIR OF COLLEGE COUNCIL

SPRING 2025 COLLEGE COUNCIL UPDATES

This semester, the College Council has accomplished a lot, adding a new DEI Standing Committee (starting this upcoming term), ratifying the updated College Council Constitution, adding more members (rolling out over the next three years), and much more. There are many opportunities to discover what is happening at the College Council. The first way is by coming to council meetings. The College Council meetings are open to everyone; a draft agenda is emailed out before the meeting to help provide an overview of the meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting, the Meeting Minutes are posted afterwards (https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/college_council/index1.html). The minutes follow Robert's Rules of Order and might not tell you precisely what was said, but instead will provide readers with an overview of what occurred. Another way to participate is by talking to the members of College Council. Members of the council represent the college community (https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/college_council/).

UPCOMING COLLEGE COUNCIL DATES

MAY 27, 2025
3:00 P.M. U-219

THE LAST/FIRST MEETING OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL

As we arrive at our last meeting of the year, this meeting has become known as the Last/First Meeting. In the past, this meeting could be confusing for those attending the council meeting. The meeting is separated into two meetings back to back. In the first meeting, the final agenda for the 2024-2025 College Council is presented. Once the final meeting is officially closed. Council members who are not returning are dismissed and thanked for their service, and then we welcome the newly elected and returning members to kick off the 2025-2026 College Council Term.

The second meeting starts, which is the First Meeting of the 2025-2026 College Council. In the second meeting, the members will vote for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Parliamentarian (depending on the term year). Afterwards, there are votes for new members of the Committee on Committees (depending on the terms). The Committees on Committees have a separate meeting as they elect a new Chair and review and certify the Council membership to the Standing Committees. During this time the council takes a short break as the Committee on Committees completes their work. Once the committee list is certified, they present it to the Chair of the College Council, who will present it to the College Council before ending the College Council Meeting. Next, the Standing Committees will have their first official meeting, where they will be separated into their committees and vote on a Chair and Secretary. It's an important task for each Standing Committee, as the Chairs and Secretaries can use the Summer to start planning the goals for their Standing Committees.

WHAT IS NEW BUSINESS?

Before a College Council meeting, the Steering Committee of the College Council confirms the agenda items (this can occur a week or two before the College Council meeting). After the agenda is confirmed, if a member wants to bring an agenda item to a Council meeting, they can do it through the New Business section of the agenda. Anytime after the agenda is confirmed, right up to before the meeting starts, a member of the Council can submit an item under New Business to the Secretary and Chair of the College Council. When the Chair of the College Council gets to New Business on the agenda, the member that submitted the motion raises their hands, and will be called on by the chair to read their motion. The motion then needs to be seconded. After it is seconded, the member can discuss their motion under New Business.

CHOOSING A STANDING COMMITTEE

All voting members of the College Council serve on a Standing Committee of the College Council. Every year, a voting member of the College Council can select up to 3 committees that they would like to serve on (a voting member only serves on one Standing Committee per year). Although the primary choice cannot be guaranteed, the Committees on Committees does their best to place a member within their choices. This upcoming year, two new Standing Committees are starting. There is a new Facilities Standing Committee and a new DEI Standing Committee. An email has been sent from the Committee on Committee to all returning members of College Council to complete the [Committee Preference Form](#) should they want to **change** their current Standing Committee. **These are due by 5:00 PM Thursday, May 22.** Newly elected Council members will receive the committee preference form upon being notified of their election and should promptly complete the form.

Only members of the Council can be a voting member of a Standing Committee. But, each Standing Committee is open to everyone, and you can come to any meeting and participate.

Support Our Students thru the Annual Scholarship Fundraiser

<https://asf25.givesmart.com/>

This year's *Annual Scholarship Fundraiser* will take place on **Thursday, June 5 at 6pm**. This event—formerly known as *Seaside Splash and The Gala*—has a new name that reflects its true purpose: raising funds that go **directly to student scholarships**.

The Office of Institutional Advancement and the KCC Foundation work year-round to raise scholarship funds that support every departmental award at Awards Night (coming up June 12), as well as named scholarships, major gifts, and endowments distributed throughout the academic year.

We fund both **need-based and merit-based** scholarships. So far this year, we've distributed **over \$380,000** in scholarships and emergency grants to **more than 330 students**.

We've also made key improvements to increase equity and access to scholarships by **eliminating GPA requirements and tax implications** for need-based and emergency grants. Next year, we will launch a new **electronic application process** to improve transparency and access for all eligible students.

Ways to support students at this time:

- **Purchase a ticket to attend:** Faculty and staff can purchase up to two discounted tickets at \$200 each. The event will include a cocktail hour, open bar, a drawing, dinner and dancing.
- **Can't attend?** Consider one of the following:
 - **Donate a GIK (gift-in-kind):** We're accepting items for our event drawing. Think of a prize *you'd like to win*. You can donate individually or take a collection as a department!
 - **Purchase an ad in the event journal:** Shoutout your department, congratulate your student graduates or ask a favorite local business to show their support. *This can also be something College Council does as a group effort.*
 - **Make a direct cash donation:** Any amount helps—and in many cases, **goes even further than purchasing a ticket.**

Thank you for all the ways you support our students—whether through your time, presence, or financial generosity. And special thanks to those who've already contributed this year!

If you have any questions about the event, please contact Maria Patestas -
Maria.Patestas@kbcc.cuny.edu

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REACH OUT TO ME AT
DANIEL.KANE@KBCC.CUNY.EDU