



DARE TO DO MORE

Dear LaGuardia faculty and staff –

If you haven't already, please take a moment to [register](#) for tomorrow's 10 a.m. Information Session on Year-End Fundraising & Grants on Zoom. Faculty and staff interested in pursuing grant funding are encouraged to attend.

Mea Culpa: In my remarks during last week's Closing Sessions event I stressed the importance of returning to in-person instruction, since that is the modality that is most effective for the majority of our students. In an effort to explain the perils of continuing remote instruction I cited the decline in Gateway English pass rates from 2019-20, one of the few metrics that the central office has made available. Unfortunately, I mentioned the decline specific to LaGuardia, when I should have used the data for the whole system, or at least CUNY community colleges, for which the average drop (-9%) is the same as LaGuardia's. By focusing on LaGuardia I created the impression that we had a unique problem, when, in fact, we don't. Indeed, were it not for the excellence of LaGuardia's English faculty, and their dedication and hard work, we would not be among peer colleges in this unfortunate statistic but beneath them. I am very sorry if some faculty were justifiably upset by my reference – please know that was certainly not my intent. I regret my error and apologize.

CUNY Memo on Employee Density: As some of you may have heard, the CUNY Central Office recently issued a [memo](#) indicating that staff will be expected to work on-campus at least 70% -- seven out of every ten work days -- beginning on January 28. I have some concerns regarding the implementation of this policy at LaGuardia, especially given what seems to be a new wave of Covid. Ron Edwards and I are seeking guidance from CUNY HR. We will be in touch about these proposed changes soon.

Above and Beyond Recognition: Thank you to LaGuardia's academic department chairs! Vera Albrecht, Abdel Belkharraz Idrissi, Bojana Blagojevic, Linda Chandler, Maria Entezari, Philip Gimber, Arthur Lau, Silvia Lin Hanick, and Mike Napolitano each endured a unique fall semester and countless hours in P&B, while handling issues big and small (thank you, Covid) along the way. Loud shout-out to our chairs for their commitment and dedication to providing a rigorous education for our students.

Happy Holidays!

Kenneth Adams
President