BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FACULTY COUNCIL

November 10, 2009

(5655) Call to order

The third meeting of Faculty Council for the 2009-2010 academic year was called to order at 3:30 p.m. in room 150 of the library by the chair, Prof. Perez y Gonzalez.

(5656) Roll call

The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Bankoff (Anthro & Archaeo), Yarrow (Classics), Powell & Cranganu (Geology), Grubbs (Music), Nadal (PRLS); Divisional Delegates: Ball (Arts), Fairey (Humanities), Raphan (Science), and Estey (Social Science) were absent (-10); Shanley (Education), Grommet (HNS) Moore (Philosophy), Bermanzohn (Pol. Sci.) and Winslow (Social Science) were excused (-5); Administrators: Faria, Green, Mirozynski, Hewitt, Gilbert, Czirak Hainline and Sillen were also absent and excused. All other members were present.

(5657) Minutes of April 7, 2009, May 12, 2009, September 8, 2009, & October 13, 2009

A discussion of the minutes of April 7, 2009, which was handed out at the door, will take place at the December 8, 2009 meeting of Faculty Council. The remaining minutes will be available then.

(5658) Steering Committee

Prof. Martha Nadell (English) was nominated for the position of Faculty Council Secretary. Prof. Nadell was elected Faculty Council Secretary with a vote of 61-yes, 1-no, and 1 abstain.

An election of one at-large Faculty Council representative for the Brooklyn College Facilities Master Planning Working Committee was held. The following Professors were nominated and Prof. Hadler (Art) received 29 votes, Prof. Tobey (Physical Educ. & Exer. Sci.) received 24 votes, and Prof. Connell (Econ.) received 16 votes. Prof. Hadler was elected.

(5659) Communications from the Administration

President Gould spoke about the Master Planning process, in which she would like all parties to be included. The process will include discussions of renovation and construction and of adjacency issues in terms of the work life of administrators, faculty, and staff, student experience, and financial concerns. The first town meeting with the architects will take place in the State Lounge in the Student Center on December 8, 2009 from 12:15 to 1:45 pm. She described a number of efforts that will be part of the process: a working group that will accumulate data and information and seek input; focus groups and town hall meetings; a website; and the Facilities Master Planning Working Committee.

It was noted by Council that Department meetings were at the same time and would not allow faculty to participate in the Town Hall meeting. President Gould stated that she would re-examine that date in light of this information.

The President discussed the Taskforce on Retention and Success. It will study the barriers and challenges to student success. It will seek a wide range of input and will look at the best practices at other urban, public institutions. It will submit a report in April.

The President reported that the West Quad Building would be fully open on December 1, 2009, when there will be a pep rally at 12:30 pm. The pool, however,
may not be fully functional at that time.

AVP Gold was unable to give an update on course renumbering or be present due to illness.

(5660) Committee on Committees

The Committee on Committees had no business to report.

(5661) Liaison with University Faculty Senate

Prof. M. Bell encouraged all faculty members to fill out the faculty experience survey, as it will be a chance for them to report their opinions about CUNY. If faculty members have not received or have lost their log-in information, they should contact Bill Phipps at the UFS.

Prof. M. Bell reported on CUNY’s proposal to change the PSC-CUNY research grants. The university wants to split the grant program into two types, large and small. Large grants would be referred to outside referees, while small grants would be considered by faculty governance bodies on campuses. It was reported that we should let our voices be heard about this issue.

Prof. M. Bell discussed the new Community College. Questions remain about it: Will it teach the liberal arts and sciences? Will it have a department structure and faculty governance? Will it have tenure track faculty?

Prof. M. Bell also reported a general feeling of “doom and gloom” about the budget.

(5662) Degree lists

Degree lists 2010/11 and 12 were presented by Prof. Bowdoin and were approved unanimously.

(5663) Report of Standing Committees

Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Prof. Harrow spoke about the renumbering process. He declared that anything passed at Faculty Council, beginning on November 10, should include both new and old numbers (except for degree requirement changes). He reported that AVP Gold, has a conversion tool for this. Prof. Harrow will send this out to the department chairs once he receives it from AVP Gold. He urged anyone with questions to contact him or Prof. Florence. Curriculum Document 335 was passed unanimously.

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Prof. Florence presented Curriculum Document 190, which was passed with a correction (On page 13, in the course Psychology 788.28G (7247), “This course is the same as Economics (7255)” should read, “This course is the same as Business 719X (7255).”

Committee on Course & Standing: Prof. Wills presented the Annual Report for 2008-2009. She spoke about the statistics on the last decade of student petitions and described an alarming number of incompletes. She stated that the committee had three recommendations: 1. a close look at workload and the possibility of four credit classes; 2. an examination of advising practices; and 3. an assessment of course scheduling. She strongly suggested this year’s committee consider the four proposed resolutions, detailed in the report, for action at a forthcoming meeting.

Committee on Master Planning, Educational Policy, & Budget: Prof. Hager presented a “Resolution of Approval in Principle for a Certificate Program in Non-Profit Fiscal Management.” The resolution passed unanimously.

(5664) Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm.
Respectfully submitted

Maria Perez y Gonzalez,  Martha Nadell,
Chair         Secretary