Faculty Council September 7, 2010

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FACULTY COUNCIL

September 7, 2010

(5722) Call to order
The first meeting of Faculty Council for the 2010-2011 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by the chair, Professor Pérez y González.

(5723) Roll call
The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Bankoff & Russell (Anthro & Archaeo), Mallory (Art), Powell (E&ES); Divisional Delegates: Steel (Humanities) were absent (-5); Giladi (Accounting), Sardy (Economics), Manlow (Fin. & Bus.), Druks (Judaic Stud.) were excused (-4); Administrators: Perez, Green, Hewitt, Gilbert, Joyner & Czirak were also absent and excused. All other members were present.

(5724) Minutes of May 11, 2010
The minutes of May 11, 2010 were approved.

(5725) Steering Committee
Professor Pérez y Gonzaléz welcomed the returning and new members of Faculty Council.

A moment of silence was taken for the passing of Professor Martha Bell, a long-term mentor, guide, and friend to many. As a member of the Brooklyn College community since 1977 and as Chair of SEEK, Professor Bell was an advocate for students at all levels of CUNY governance. A member of Policy Council and liaison for the University Faculty Senate, she was a fountain of wisdom and knowledge about CUNY. The Martha J. Bell Memorial Fund was announced. It will provide scholarships for SEEK students.

Professor Pérez y Gonzaléz welcomed the new chairs and representatives from a number of departments. She congratulated Vice President of Student Affairs Milga Morales on her new appointment, as well as Professor Mac Wellman (English) on his appointment as Distinguished Professor.

An announcement was made about the nominations for the search committees for the four deans for the new four schools. The nominations and subsequent election will take place electronically.

An election of two Faculty Council members for the Committee on Review will take place electronically.

Faculty Council nominations for the Brooklyn College Association Board took place. Professors Len Fox (English), Irene Sosa (TV-Radio/PRLS), and Tracy Daraviras (SEEK) were nominated.

Professor Pérez y Gonzaléz will contact chairs with committee assignments for the Faculty Experience Survey. Responses to the Faculty Experience Survey will be due at the end of October.

(5726) Communications from the Administration
President Gould welcomed members of Faculty Council. She noted her deep grief about the passing of Professor Martha Bell.

President Gould introduced Vice President for Enrollment Services, Dr. Stephen Joyner, who stated how excited he was to be at Brooklyn College. He looks forward to getting to know the Brooklyn College community and to learning how Enrollment Services may be of assistance.
President Gould spoke about fall enrollment figures: freshman enrollment is 920, compared to 700 last year, and the mean SAT score is 1113. Transfer enrollment is 1463, a slightly smaller number than last year’s 1720 last year. President Gould stated that this is due to the slight change in admissions requirements, from a GPA of 2.0 to 2.3. This suggests a stronger transfer class and an increased likelihood of transfer retention. This year, 82% of freshman were retained, a rise from the previous year. Overall, Brooklyn College will have roughly 17,000 students, a similar enrollment to last year.

President Gould spoke about the two-pronged process for the search for deans. Each search committee will consist of 11 members, including 7 faculty members (5 will be elected directly from the faculty members of each school; President Gould will choose 2 from 4 nominations put forth by Faculty Council), 2 students, and 2 HEOs. The first ad for the deans appeared in The Chronicle of Higher Education the previous week. Additional ads will appear in coming weeks.

The Facilities Master Planning process is not yet complete. The administration will continue to examine costs, needs, and square footage. Meetings will continue during the fall. Departments will be interviewed then. Planning for the Tow Performing Arts Center is going forward. Bids are out for the swing space in Roosevelt, so that the demolition of Gershwin may begin by spring. Architectural planning for the Roosevelt science facilities will continue.

The Strategic Planning process will continue to unfold in fall. By the end of the upcoming week, a memo about meetings, plenaries, town halls, and the website will be sent to the college community.

President Gould announced that, as there has been no capital budget, there is no news to report. She asked Vice President for Finance and Administration Steve Little to speak about the budget.

Vice President Steve Little spoke about the financial situation of the college. The FY2011 budget will see a $2.8 million reduction. Of that amount, $1 million will be covered by enhancing revenue collection. Faculty can help by ensuring that attendance is collected. The remaining $1.8 million will be covered by actions at the divisional level: $1.2 million will come from academic affairs and $490,000-500,000 will come from finance administration. In addition, the university has mandated a holdback of $1.4 million encumbrance reserve in event of a mid-year reduction. The revenue target has been increased by $806,000 to a total of $79.6 million. Recurring and non-recurring projected expenditures will be adjusted in order to have a balanced financial plan, due by September 15, 2010. A university new policy about year-end balances will be in effect. A minimum of 1% and maximum of 3% ($1 million to $3 million) of the operating budget may be held. Vice President Little raised this issue because of concern about the FY2012 budget. The university is offering an early retirement initiative. Faculty lines emerging from the initiative will be replaced, though at a lower salary and not necessarily in the same department. Preliminary lump sum allocations for programs have not yet come from the university, so Vice President Little asked that program heads be cautious with their expenditures. Vice President Little spoke about the capital budget. The college did not receive $16.5 million from the state for the performing arts project, but the university has maintained its commitment to it. Bids will be awarded this week, and the construction of the swing space will begin with an eye toward occupancy starting around January 2011. Following that, the demolition will begin in the spring, to be followed by construction beginning July 2011. The roof replacement in James and the Library are complete. Design of the HVAC replacement for animal care facility is underway. Roof replacement for 148 New Ingersoll should be complete by the spring, and there is a capital request for the renovation of that room for next fall. The pool is open in the West Quad Building. A multipurpose room, dance studio, and storage space there are complete as well. The landscape design for the West Quad is being reviewed. Work on the West Quad athletic fields will begin in spring 2011 and be completed by fall 2011. Work on the James and Roosevelt Hall façades and entrances to the
West Quad will be complete by spring 2011. The design of Roosevelt Science Building is underway. The final report of the facilities master plan is due in spring 2011. The student residence hall, which accommodates undergraduates and graduate students only, is at 130-135 students, roughly 50% occupancy. The TV Center will receive a high definition equipment upgrade. The college received funding from the City Council and Borough President for a conference center on the 3rd floor of Whitehead. A member of Faculty Council asked about funds for upgrading the internet on campus. There will be efforts in that arena.

(5727) Committee on Committees

The Committee on Committees presented a number of nominations in addition to what was approved in May: Professor Tracy Daraviras (SEEK) was nominated as chair of Admissions, Professor Peter Grillo (PEES) was nominated to Intercollegiate Athletics, and Professor Bruce MacIntyre (Music) was nominated as member and chair of Master Planning, Educational Policy and Budget. All nominations were approved.

(5728) Liaison with University Faculty Senate

Professor Leslie Jacobson had no report, as the University Faculty Senate has not yet met. She urged members of the Faculty Council to take the Faculty Experience Survey Report very seriously.

(5729) Degree lists

Degree lists 2010/33, 34, 35, 2011/1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 were presented by Prof. Gargan and were approved unanimously.

(5730) Report of Standing Committees

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Prof. Florence presented Curriculum Document 196 with the following corrections. Professor Ball should be listed as a member of the Department of Art (page 1); the Department of Accounting will submit rather than the Department of Economics (page 6); a redundant “and” should be deleted (page 3). The document was approved.

Committee on Master Planning, Educational Policy, & Budget: Professor Wills presented a resolution for “the approval in principle establishing a new program in Human Resource Management leading to a degree in Master of Arts.” The resolution was approved with 78 yeas, 2 nays, and 2 abstentions.

Committee on Review of Student Records: The annual report was presented and accepted.

(5731) Old Business

There was no old business.

(5732) New Business

Professor Pérez y González announced the increase in Faculty Council membership to 98 members, due to the creation of two new departments.

(5733) Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair thanked the members of Faculty Council for their efforts throughout the year and declared the meeting adjourned at 4:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

María Pérez y González, Chair

Martha Nadell, Secretary