

**BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

FACULTY COUNCIL

October 11, 2011

- (5831) Call to order The second meeting of Faculty Council for the 2011-2012 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by the chair, Professor Pérez y González (PRLS).
- (5832) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Thomas (Africana), Bankoff, Sharman & Perdikaris (Anthro & Archae), Williams (Classics), Cheng (E&ES), Walker (Library), Kingan (Math), Daraviras (SEEK); Divisional Delegates: Steel (English) & Raphan (Science), were absent (-11); Winslow (Social Sci.), Lipke (Biology), Ciszowska (Chemistry), Lenzer (Children & Youth Stud.) Tremper (English) & Grommet (H&NS) were excused (-6); Administrators: Faria, Green, Hewitt, Gilbert, Joyner, Czirak, Sillen & Hopkins were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (5833) Minutes of Professor Nadell (English) presented the minutes of September 13, 2011. The May 10, 2011 minutes were approved as corrected with a vote of 60 yeas, 1 nay, and 2 abstentions.
- (5834) Steering Professor Pérez y González opened with a moment of silence for the passing of Committee Professors Laura Kitch (Sociology) and Thomas Mermal (Modern Languages). Both contributed tremendously to Brooklyn College. They served in a variety of important capacities at Brooklyn College throughout the years.; both were chairpersons and Faculty Council committee members, and Kitch served as acting provost.
- (5835) President Gould introduced and welcomed Steven Schechter, the new Executive Communications Director of Government and External Relations. Along with the deans, the provost, from the the president, other members of the administration, and occasionally faculty and Administration students, he will lobby on behalf of Brooklyn College for capital requests in Albany. This year, he will concentrate on the Roosevelt Science complex with multiple trips to Albany. He will not focus on any other capital project. He will also work on New York City Council requests.
- President Gould then spoke about the need for additional smart classrooms and stated her commitment to accelerating the process of developing them. In addition to ten smart classrooms that came on line last year, the conversion of twenty additional smart classrooms will begin between the fall and spring semesters. Vice President for Finance and Administration Little and Associate Vice President for ITS and Chief Technology Officer Gold will discuss how many more smart classrooms Brooklyn College will need to feel fully modernized. In addition, the administration will work with chairs and Faculty Council committees to make sure that the delivery of technology and technology assisted learning is improved dramatically.
- Professor Meagher (Education) asked about lobbying in Albany and asked if there were any efforts to lobby for additional support. President Gould responded that Brooklyn College did a lot of that last year and that CUNY lobbies for maintenance funds. President Gould responded that, during the summer of 2011, New York State Governor Cuomo and the New York State legislature pledged that they would not cut CUNY's budget for the next four years. President Gould raised the possibility of lobbying for support in additional arenas. She referred to efforts to raise funds for adjunct healthcare, which will come from CUNY Central, and stated that she would add her voice in support of this. Brooklyn College is in a unique situation, where the objective is not to "hold the line," which was the case during the last two years, given the budget cuts of \$300 million to the senior colleges in the

past three or four years. Currently, 77% of Brooklyn College's total tax-levy funds of \$115 million are dependent on tuition.

Professor Wills (History) stated that CUNY has not been effective about lobbying to keep tuition down for our students and asked President Gould to make a public statement that she abhorred the tuition increase. President Gould responded that she has made comments about this issue at Faculty Council and at the Stated Meeting of the Faculty. She stated that it is hugely regrettable that the state has not maintained its promise and support to CUNY and SUNY over a decade or more and continued to whittle away at our budget even as health care and other costs have risen and even as we want to provide raises for faculty and staff. Brooklyn College is very lean, and there is not a lot of room for cuts. For example, Brooklyn College lost four custodians in the ERI. As CUNY hasn't officially approved the budget, their positions have not yet been filled. If the state continues to whittle down the budget and if costs continue to rise, Brooklyn College doesn't have much leeway to address its constraints, especially if we don't want to see the numbers of full time faculty decrease. She applauded Course & Standing for recognizing that one of our major responsibilities is to help students move through the curriculum and graduate quickly. In that way, students will save money.

Professor Pérez y González asked if the Student Tuition Assistance Fund would continue. President Gould stated that it will, but not in the same format. The funds have been moved to the Petrie Grants, which are for students in need. She stated Faculty may contribute to student scholarships.

(5836) Committee on Professor Langsam (CIS) presented the following nominees for the 2011-2012 academic year: Professor Ball as Chair of Graduate Curriculum, and Professors Connell (Finance) and Hwu (CB & SE) as members of Graduate Curriculum. Faculty Council accepted the nominees with a vote of 79 yeas, 1 nay, and 0 abstentions. Professor Langsam noted vacancies on the following committees: Course & Standing and Undergraduate Curriculum.

(5837) Liaison with University Faculty Senate Professor Jacobson (H & N) discussed the September 20, 2011 meeting of the University Faculty Senate and stated that those who are interested in the details of the meeting may visit www.cunyufs.org. She stated that UFS Chairperson Cooper spoke about concerns with the Pathways proposal. Chairperson Cooper gave an overview of the deliberations surrounding Pathways. She discussed assessment and outcomes, among other concerns. Her conclusion was that the UFS and faculty involved in general education have been largely ignored. She pointed out that the charter of the UFS, approved by the Board of Trustees, charges the UFS to deal with governance and shared governance, to help CUNY colleges shape their governance charters, to provide information about other colleges, and to stand up for what is violated. According to section 8.18 of its charter, the UFS is charged with dealing with cross campus academic and educational issues. How everything is being handled by CUNY central has been of great concern to the UFS. PSC-CUNY President Bowen, Vice-President London, and Treasurer Fabricant were invited to speak about the union's involvement in the Pathway's issue, as it concerns faculty governance. It was pointed out that the union does not weigh in on transfer proposals and curricular issues. It does weigh in, however, on faculty governance. President Bowen spoke about the outcome of *Polishook vs. CUNY*, which gave responsibility to governance bodies (ie UFS) for the formation of curricular policy, subject to guidelines of the Board of Trustees. The Union has taken the position that it must defend the Polishook decision and is bringing litigation to do so. Vice-Chair of the UFS and Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee Martell reported on the CUNY budget. The Budget Advisory Committee meets regularly to discuss the state budget with Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Sapienza and Senior Vice Chancellor for Budget Shaw, Finance and Financial Policy. Some of the priorities recently discussed include the concern about the need for more full time lines, making sure that the ERI lines are replaced, the need for more resources for academic advisement, and the need for more faculty support for advisement.

Budgets have been cut, but the faculty doesn't see many of those cuts, as they occur in security, maintenance of effort, and operations. We have learned from the president and provost, that while we have taken a budget cut this year, the bite will come next year (FY2013). The budget website provides information about the budgets of all of the colleges. The FY 2013 operating budget is going to Board of Trustees at the end of October and is currently being developed on the individual campuses. The Vice Chancellor made it clear that elected faculty governance groups must be consulted as part of the process. Those committees on campus, which are responsible for budget, including Master Planning, Educational Policy, & Budget, must be part of the process.

- (5838) Degree Lists Degree lists 2012/7-10 were presented by Professor Thurm (CIS) and were approved with a vote of 78 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.
- (5839) Report of Standing Committees Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Tenenbaum (CIS) presented Curriculum Document 348. Professor Troyansky (History) stated that History wished to give clearance to American Studies for its new course, American Studies 3307. The document was approved with corrections (pages 6, 8, 12) with a vote of 75 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions. Professor Tenenbaum stated that the deadline for the November meeting is October 17, 2011.
- Course & Standing: Professor Pérez y González announced the C & S would present its annual report at the November meeting.
- Master Planning, Educational Policy, & Budget: Professor MacIntyre (Music) presented the annual report, which was accepted. In addition, he presented a resolution "deploring the College's recent decisions on budget, new lines, and academic programs without full, advance consultation with the Master Planning Committee and strongly urg[ing] the College to correct this mistake going forward into FY2012 and in the future." The resolution passed with a vote of 71 yeas, 3 nays, and 3 abstentions.
- Review of Student Records: Professor Bowdoin (Library) presented the annual reports. Professor MacIntyre thanked Professor Bowdoin and the committee for their efforts, which occasioned a round of applause.
- (5840) Old Business Professor Entin (English) spoke on behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee on Aligning Faculty Workload with College Goals. He thanked departments for discussing the four-credit course proposal at departments meetings and asked those departments that did not to do so at their next meeting. He stated that the committee is collecting comments and conducting research about the practices at other institutions. Professor Manlow (Finance & Business Management) stated that 92% of the top 40 liberal arts colleges have four credit courses and stated that the committee is exploring what kinds of assessment and evaluation have been conducted about the effect of that credit structure. Professor MacIntyre stated that at the next chairs' lunch there would be a discussion of workload that "falls under the radar" and does not make it into the PMP.
- (5841) New Business There was no new business.

(5830) 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 4:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

María Pérez y González,
Chair

Martha Nadell,
Secretary