

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

FACULTY COUNCIL

October 16, 2012

- (5928) Call to order    The second meeting of Faculty Council for the 2012-2013 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by the chair, Professor Pérez y González (PRLS).
- (5829) Roll call        The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Cheng (E&ES), Bonaffini & Childers (Modern Lang.), Marsh (Theater); School Delegates: Lenzer (Children & Youth Stu.), Winslow (Education), Minter (Humanities & Social Sci.), Dexter (Natural & Behavioral Sci.), Grubbs & McCoy (Visual, Media & Performing Arts) were absent (-10); Emmer (Speech) were excused (-1); Administrators: Hewitt, Green & Feltman were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (5930) Minutes of      Professor Nadell presented the minutes of September 11, 2012, which passed with  
September 11, 2012    a vote of 88 yeas, 2 nays, and 0 abstentions.
- (5931) Steering        Professor Pérez y González led a moment of silence for Professor Weissberg  
Committee              (Emeritus, Psychology). He received his BA and MA from Brooklyn College and his PhD in Social Psychology from the University of Michigan. He was appointed an assistant professor in the Psychology Department at Brooklyn College in 1964, where he taught for 38 years, achieving the rank of full professor. He served as Chair of the Psychology Department and as Undergraduate Dean, and at the end of his deanship, Dr. Weissberg shifted and completed an APA approved re-specialization program in Clinical Psychology at Hofstra University. Upon retirement from the college as a professor, emeritus and his move to Pennsylvania, Dr. Weissberg accepted the position as Director of Training for Contact of Greater Philadelphia, an organization that maintains a suicide hotline as part of the National Suicide Prevention Network. He was also a member of the Disaster Mental Health Team of the American Red Cross and was deployed during 9/11 and to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Dr. Weissberg maintained a close connection to Brooklyn College, both professionally and through his many friendships with faculty since his retirement. Professor Pérez y González stated that Dr. Weissberg was a dear friend to the department of what was then called Puerto Rican Studies.
- Professor Pérez y González reported on the recent meeting of faculty governance leaders at which Chancellor Goldstein, Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Logue, and General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs Schaffer attended. Chancellor Goldstein stated that he was aghast and furious about the comments of the interim provost at Queensborough Community College. He stated that they were unnecessarily provocative, wrong, absolutely misguided, and unfortunate. He stated that the apology was in order and that there should be no punishment for any faculty members' or departments' refusal to participate in Pathways. Professor Pérez y González reported that that Chancellor Goldstein then stated that he wants to see Pathways courses go through the regular processes for approval by faculty governance and will not accept any that are not faculty approved. He stated that the faculty were empowered by the Board to do these courses but were not empowered, however, to ignore or indicate that they would not follow policy set by the Board of Trustees. Faculty must follow policy and implementation. Faculty are employees of the university, as "I am," he stated and therefore must carry out policies set forth by the Board of Trustees. A Queensborough Community College representative asked the Chancellor to push back the timeline of Pathways, because of lower morale and feelings of disempowerment on the part of faculty. The Chancellor stated that he has a

mandate to implement Pathways and that it has been over a year since the Pathways resolution passed and that Pathways would be implemented by Fall, 2013. There was then a question about transferability and Pathways, to which the Chancellor responded by declaring that Pathways is also about general education. A question about pedagogical rationale for the credit/hour issue was posed to EVC Logue. EVC Logue described the definition of contact and workload hours. She stated that three contract hours are required according to the collective bargaining agreement and that the entire class should meet with faculty. If some want to go to a fourth hour, students will have to meet with faculty members. CUNY central has nothing to do with the fourth workload hour. The two lawsuits were then discussed. The first one may be decided by December 2012 or January 2013. CUNY Central feels as though it has won the case, because many colleges have submitted with courses. The second lawsuit does not have an impact on Brooklyn College. Professor Pérez y González raised the question of what courses Brooklyn College chairs will submit by February 2013, when the fall schedule is due. She also raised the possibility of repercussions for those campuses that do not participate in Pathways. The Chancellor has stated that there will be none. Professor Pérez y González asked if refusal to participate would affect the PMP and funding for capital projects. Professor Pérez y González that there were other issues concerning Medgar Evers College and the vote of no confidence in its president.

Professor Pérez y González then conducted elections for members of the Steering Committee of Faculty Council. Professor Langsam (CIS) was nominated and elected Chair of Faculty Council with a vote of 66 yeas, 15 nays, and 12 abstentions. He then resigned his position on the Committee on Committees. Professor Nadell (English) was elected Secretary with a vote of 86 yeas, 5 nays, and 2 abstentions. Professor Gargan (Library) and Professor Pérez y González were elected at-large members of Steering with a single vote cast by the Secretary. Professor Langsam moved that Faculty Council thank Professor Pérez y González for her tremendous leadership as Chair of Faculty Council. Professor Pérez y González stated that it had been a privilege, honor, and challenge to serve. She thanked Faculty Council for its confidence in her and stated that she would enjoy her continued service as a member of the Steering Committee.

(5932)  
Communications  
from the  
Administration

President Gould extended a special thanks to Professor Pérez y González for her thoughtful, calm, and excellent leadership of Faculty Council through the easy times and the more challenging ones. She saluted Professor Pérez y González for her decision to work on her promotion to full professor.

President Gould then thanked Nicole Haas and other faculty and staff members who have volunteered to engage in the work of "the policy reminder team to be tobacco free." They have worked to help continuing smokers see the wisdom of not smoking on campus. There is work to be done but significant progress has been made in achieving the goal of having a healthier campus.

President Gould reported that Brooklyn College did receive a good rating on its PMP and received \$95,000 of one-time money with a directive to reward those areas that received the highest rating, rather than those that were lower. The President stated that she submitted a request to put \$40,000 to faculty research and travel in support of faculty scholarship. Brooklyn College received a rating of one in this area and is very proud of its faculty. These funds will help faculty not only present at professional conferences but also recruit for faculty searches there. She committed to adding \$40,000 into this effort in the better budget year of 2013. Of the \$95,000, \$30,000 will go to Student Affairs, which was ranked very high because of the outstanding work of the team, particularly in civic engagement and student leadership development. The remaining \$25,000 will go to Enrollment Management Services to focus on advancing the digital tracking.

President Gould then turned to the credit hour. She clarified her understanding of this issue. She stated that the following information emerged from the latest discussion: campuses that have paid for the fourth hour do not need to meet with students for that fourth credit hour. That decision is the business of each campus. That hour can be spent in many ways.

She stated that the Chancellor has created a standing committee on international education, which is a result of the task force on improving opportunities for international education, including study abroad and international recruitment. President Gould is chairing the committee. She hopes that Brooklyn College will make inroads to greater support for students to study abroad and for faculty to have international exchanges.

President Gould then thanked the Committee on Course and Standing for its annual report. The committee takes an enormous amount of time on its work and in a thorough and conscientious recording of that work. She was struck with the diligence with which they are trying to help students move through the request process so that they may receive determinations in a speedy manner. She thanked faculty, who worked over the summer so that students could have responses to their questions and petitions in a much speedier way.

Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Giovannelli stated that he has been here for six weeks and is very happy to be at Brooklyn College, despite the fact that he is a "Bronx guy." He has met and begun working with a few members of the Brooklyn College community. He extended special thanks to AVP for Finance, Budget, and Planning/Comptroller Gilbert for his efforts. He will set up forums and meetings to give more depth on the subject on the budget. Additional details will be available at that point. He said that he was "cautiously optimistic" about the 2013 budget. The 2013 budget is roughly \$119 million, which includes an increase of 2.8% over last year. This comes after two years of budget reductions. The figure of \$119 million budget is almost identical to the 2010 budget. He addressed the question of why, if things are good, are things bad. Brooklyn College is back at 2010 levels of resources and includes inflation. Brooklyn College will get along with less, but the trajectory of the budget is good. He then discussed how the money is spent. There are a small number of high priority items that are consistent with the strategic plans of the college, including critically important full time searches for 35 faculty members and student support. Prior reductions of 10% in academic units have been restored, as have library hours. Administrative units continue to deal with cuts, which are manifest in visible ways on campus. The 2014 budget is on the horizon. SVP Giovannelli stated that he is committed to an open style, transparency, and gathering as much information as possible. The capital budget is in good shape; SVP Giovannelli is delighted to have planning meetings for the Performance Arts Center and the Science Center. He stated that the search for the AVP for Facilities continues and thanked Vice President for Enrollment Management Joyner for his efforts in that search.

(5933) Committee on Committees had no report.

(5934) Liaison with the Faculty Senate Professor Jacobson reported on the UFS plenary of October 9, 2012. Deputy Chief Operating Officer Smalter and University Director of Sustainability Case spoke about energy conservation and sustainability at CUNY. CUNY occupies over 30 million square feet and uses 1% of New York City's power board. In 2012, it will use 11 % of the city's energy budget (over \$85 million). Lighting will be borne directly by each college. That will cost the university \$60 million in electricity, 40% of which goes into light. Any savings from conservation will revert to the campuses. The

“CUNY Conserves” incentive will help lower the carbon footprint of CUNY. Funds of \$1 million will be available for projects that will do so. The CUNY sustainability group is spearheading the New York City-wide outreach projects, which include renewable energy and solar power. In addition, the group is working with IBM, Verizon, and Con Ed on the New York City Clean Tech Collaborative on a number of projects. Con Ed has a group of Con Ed scholars, who will receive grants of \$5000 for linking students and faculty to develop capstone projects. Some of the suggested behavior steps to reduce energy include lowering the heat or raising the cooling temperature by one degree. Each campus has sustainability committees working on different projects, which communicate with each other. UFS Chair Martell (Baruch) discussed the PMPs. The Executive Committees of the UFS addressed 4 goals of 45 items: 1. To develop and implement productivity measures 2. To establish curricular profiles 3. To develop on-line and hybrid courses 4. To assess the general common core. EVC Logue will meet with the Executive Committee to discuss the examination of these goals. Professor Conway (BMCC) reported that the School of Professional Studies is planning to offer an on-line BA degree in urban studies and wondered if the other colleges were apprised of that information. Usually, colleges were notified of the intent of other schools to develop degrees. The other colleges did not know of the SPS intent. Professor Conway noted that there would be a conference on November 2, 2012 about transparency in the community colleges budgets. The remainder of the meeting concerned Pathways. Chair Martell raised the question of how much transfer issues are a problem of excess credits. He stated that Pathways has morphed into “student choice” and it is “weaker than a house of cards.” The original data from the “Improving Student Transfer at CUNY” report was offered by Chair Martell, who estimated that 2.67 credits are in excess for transfer students. The excess credit issue is true of double majors, late transfers, and specialized programs that are not college-wide. A City College faculty member of UFS stated that City College has recommended a forty-six credit core as a compromise for Pathways. The City College English Department is holding firm in its belief that it is inappropriate for EVC Logue to interfere with course offerings. The UFS conference on Pathways on Friday, October 12, 2012 at John Jay College was announced. Professor Fox (English) stated that Pathways reveals disrespect for general education, for faculty roles in general education, and for faculty governance. It would be a tremendous mistake to go along with Pathways, he stated.

- (5935) Degree Lists Degree Lists 2013/7, 8, 9, & 10 were presented by Professor Thurm (CIS) and were approved with a vote of 83 yeas, 2 nays and 1 abstention.
- (5936) Report of Standing Committees Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Tenenbaum (CIS) presented Curriculum Document 357. Professor Shortell (Sociology) raised a point of order and stated that the document was out of order. Professor Pérez y González ruled that the document was in order but would entertain a motion to divide the document. Professor Shortell moved to sever sections A-IV and A-VI. The motion passed with a vote of 70 yeas, 12 nays, and 8 abstentions. Section A-VI passed with a vote of 81 yeas, 6 nays, and 2 abstentions. Faculty Council then discussed section A-IV. Professor Shortell raised a point of order and stated that the courses under discussion were Pathways courses and, hence, out of order, given Faculty Council’s earlier resolution. Professor Pérez y González said that the document did not state that the courses under consideration were Pathways courses and ruled that the document was in order. Professor Ball (Art) stated that the rationales stated that the courses would be replacement for Core courses. Professor Shortell appealed the decision of the Chair of Faculty Council. Professor Langsam stated that the Department of Computer and Information Science supports the Chair’s ruling, as the Department of Computer and Information Science makes no representation regarding Pathways whatsoever in the courses listed. The Department does not intend to submit the courses to Pathways and feels that the courses are legitimate within the CIS Department. Indeed, he stated, the rationales mention the Core but not Pathways. He stated that, if some time in the future, the Core disappears, the CIS Department would like

to have the courses on the books. Professor Tenenbaum stated that there was no A-III section and in no way is the document changing degree requirements or core requirements. He stated that there is a precedent for a computer course, which is similar to a core course, which existed as Brooklyn College transitioned from one core to another. Professor Hainline (Psychology) asked if these were low-level electives that would not count toward the CIS major, to which Professor Tenenbaum responded in the affirmative. Professor Tremper (English) stated Pathways courses would not be able to be designated CORC and asked how we can be sure that the courses would not be used to Pathways. Professor Shortell stated that he believed these courses would be used for Pathways and that we should respect our governance and the April 2012 resolution. Professor Allen (Music) asked if these courses were to replace a Core course, what would happen to that Core class. Professor Tenenbaum stated that nothing would change and that the Core requirement would remain in effect. Professor Yarrow (Classics) asked if Pathways had not existed, would these courses have come about. Professor Girelli-Carasi moved the agenda. The Chair's ruling was overturned with a vote of 53 yeas, 40 nays, and 4 abstentions. Professor Pérez y González thanked Professor Tenenbaum for his work.

Committee on Graduate Curriculum and Degree Requirements: Professor Ball presented Curriculum Document 209, which passed with 82 yeas, 1 nay, and 2 abstentions.

Committee on Course and Standing: Professor Cohen (Music) presented the annual report and thanked President Gould for her remarks. He also thanked faculty and departments for their efforts. Professor Pérez y González thanked the committee. Professor Yarrow made a motion that we formally pass on recommendation #4 to the administration for action. The motion passed with a vote of 79 yeas, 3 nays, and 3 abstentions.

(5937)Old Business There was no old business.

(5938)New Business There was no new business.

(5939) Adjournment There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

María Pérez y González,  
Chair

Martha Nadell,  
Secretary