

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

FACULTY COUNCIL

May 7, 2013

- (5989) Call to order The eighth 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 Langsam (CIS).
- (5990) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Latortue (Africana), Bankoff (Anthro & Archeao), Hadler (Art), Ciszowska (Chemistry), Shannon (ECAE), Cheng & Powell (E&ES), Rawson (History), Velling (Math), Miyano (Physics), Law (Poli Sci), Bullen (SEEK), Wasser (TV& Radio); School Delegates: Steel & Menser (Humanities & Social Sci.), Augenstein, Hainline & Perdikaris (Nat & Behav Sci.), Grubbs (Visual, Media & Performing Arts) were absent (-19); Lenzer (Children & Youth Sci.) was excused (-1); Administrators: Perez, Faria, Green, Hewitt, Gilbert, Fitzgerald, Sillen, Feltman & Psarris were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (5991) Minutes of April 16, 2013 Professor Langsam announced that the minutes of April 16, 2013 would be presented at the following meeting
- (5992) Steering Committee Professor Langsam led a moment of silence for Professor Norman Harrington (Emeritus, English Department)
- Professor Langsam announced Brooklyn College's representatives for the University Faculty Senate: Professor Massood (Film), Professor Okome (Political Science), Professor Winslow (SEED), Professor Fox (English), Professor Hainline (Psychology), Professor Perez Rosario (PRLS), Professor Braine (Sociology), Professor Day (Africana), Professor Florence (SEED), and Professor McEntee (Biology) Alternates are Professor Juszczak (Chemistry) and Porter (FBM). Part-time representatives include Professor Buchholz (Accounting) and Professor Sapozhnikov (Physics).
- Professor Langsam announced selectees of the President for the Brooklyn College Association Board. They are Professor Manlow (FBM), Professor Fox, and Professor Menser (Philosophy).
- (5993) Communications from the Administration President Gould reflected on the busy time of year. She announced that CUNY and the PSC had reached an agreement on a phased retirement program. Information will be disseminated. It is a three-year phased program at 50% instructional workload and 50% salary. It is for faculty in TIAA-CREF. There is also a staff program.
- President Gould announced that the Chancellor will meet with the New York City Council to talk about the CUNY budget. There are initiatives to make sure the budget cuts that were proposed are reinstated. There is quite a bit of emphasis on the community colleges, but there aren't many large items. There is a Haitian Studies Institute item; it is a planning document for CUNY. We will learn more about it if it is funded. We will learn how we can participate.
- The President announced that Executive Director of Marketing, Communications

and Public Relations Thompson will be leaving Brooklyn for an AVP of Communications position in Boston. His last day is May 22, 2013. She expressed her deep appreciation. She called attention to the changes he made on the website. She stated that the annual report is beautiful and the magazine spectacular. She stated that he had greatly improved Brooklyn College's visibility and professionalism. She expressed her thanks.

- (5994) Committee on Committees Professor Shortell (Sociology) presented the nominations list for committee assignments the 2013 -2014 academic year with changes. Professor Yarrow (Classics) asked why one of her faculty members had been moved off of one committee and on to another. Professor Shortell stated the Committee worked to have cross-school balance for the memberships of committees. In addition, there were concerns that one of the unintended consequences of moving to a school-based structure was isolation, and with governance issues, it is important to think of ourselves as one faculty. Finally, given that governance has become more contentious, the members of the Committee on Committees felt it was important to not have untenured faculty members on key committees. Professor Yarrow made a motion to swap Professor Kellogg's position (Classics) on the Committee on Admissions committee for a position on the Committee on Core Curriculum and Professor Smith's (Classics) position on the Committee on Core Curriculum for a position on the Committee on Admissions. The motion passed with a vote of 58 yeas, 15 nays, and 10 abstentions. The nominations passed with a vote of 78 yeas, 2 nays, and 2 abstentions.
- (5995) Liaison with the Faculty Senate Professor Fox (English) presented the "Resolution Objecting to the Extension of Pathways Common Core Course Review Committees." He described the context of the resolution. The central administration created faculty committees that made recommendations. The central administration made a Pathways curriculum, which did not necessarily follow the recommendations of the committees. This did not follow normal governance procedures. The UFS fears that administration will want to continue the committees and asked that the committees go through a review and approval process. There is a guideline that second degree students from international institutions don't need to study English and that faculty did not approve. The resolution passed with a vote of 72 yeas, 5 nays, and 5 abstentions.
- (5996) Degree Lists Professor Thurm (CIS) presented Degree Lists 2013/27, 28, 29 & 30, which were approved with a vote of 81 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention. Professor Thurm thanked Assistant Registrar Hegner.
- (5997) Report of Standing Committees
- Committee on Review of Student Records: Professor Thurm presented the annual report, which was accepted.
- Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Tenenbaum (CIS) presented Curriculum Document 363 with changes. The document passed with a vote of 89 yeas, 1 nay, and 0 abstentions.
- Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Ball (Art) presented Curriculum Document 215 with changes. The document passed with a vote of 81 yeas, 1 nay, and 0 abstentions. Professor Ball presented the annual report, which was accepted.
- Committees on Academic Foundations: Professor Bonaffini (Modern Languages) presented an addendum to its annual report, which was accepted.
- Committee on Academic Integrity: Professor Braine (Sociology) presented the annual report, which was accepted. She called attention to the possibility of a co-chair structure for committees.

Committee on Admissions: Professor Harrow (CIS) presented the annual report, which was accepted.

Committee on Campus Planning: Professor Smithsimon (Sociology) presented the annual report, which was accepted.

Committee on Core Curriculum: Professor Gonsalves (English) presented the "Resolution on the Language Requirement." There was a discussion of the fact that, for the first time, students will be able to graduate from Brooklyn College without courses in a foreign language. A member of Faculty Council stated that the language requirement was one of the pillars of a liberally arts education and that Brooklyn College will be the only four year college in CUNY that doesn't have a language requirement. Professor Moore (Philosophy) stated that when he was the Chair of the Committee on Core Curriculum, the committee spent a year in widespread discussion throughout the college and heard strong, clear, and consistent commitments to a robust language requirement. As President of Brooklyn College's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, he attended the PBK triennial conference last year. Foreign language was much discussed at the meeting. PBK takes knowledge of a foreign language very seriously for eligibility for membership in Phi Beta Kappa. He reflected that the general decline in foreign language requirements at public universities is contributing to the two speed educational system in the United States. He expressed concerns that this would "un-level" the playing field for Brooklyn College students. Professor Hadler (Art) stated that there was a compromise and that efforts to reach this compromise should be respected. Professor Yarrow (Classics) quoted Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost from *CUNY Matters* of March 2013: "Every college has the option of putting its own flavor on their students' specific requirements," said Logue, who noted that some campuses are requiring students to take a science lab or study a foreign language." Professor Yarrow stated that she wished we were one of those colleges. The resolution passed with a vote of 77 yeas, 4 nays, and 2 abstentions.

Committee on Graduate Admissions & Standards: Professor Chu (H&NS) brought forth the "Motion to Bring the Graduate Grade Appeal Process into Alignment with the Undergraduate Process." The motion passed with a vote of 77 yeas, 2 nays, and 2 abstentions.

Committee on Honors, Citations & Awards: Professor Evans presented the annual report, which was accepted.

Committee on Research: Professor Grov (H&NS) presented the annual report. He called attention to the policy change that occurred in 2012 that increased the cost for faculty members to buy out of teaching when they receive a federally funded grant. He raised concerns that the cost is not flexible, as it is at some other CUNY schools, and that the change appears to have been done without input from faculty and Faculty Council. The report was accepted.

(5998) Old Business There was no old business.

(5999) New Business Professor Emmer (Speech) presented the "Resolution on the Speech Screening Requirement." Professor Soare (SEEK) expressed his support for the resolution, based on his experiences with SEEK students whose native languages are other than English. Professor Fox stated that ESL faculty members recommend that ESL students take Speech classes. Professor Walker (Library) asked about requirements at other CUNY colleges. A discussion of when and how students are screened continued. The motion passed with a vote of 72 yeas, 2 nays, and 6 abstentions.

(6000) Adjournment Professor Langsam remarked that the past year had been extraordinarily productive. He thanked members of Faculty Council, especially junior members, for all their hard work and wished everyone a restful and productive summer. There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Yedidiah Langsam,
Chair

Martha Nadell,
Secretary