

BROOKLYN COLLEGE  
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
FACULTY COUNCIL

April 12, 2016

- (6266) Call to order      The seventh meeting of Faculty Council for the 2015-2016 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by Professor Langsam (CIS).
- (6267) Roll call      The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Ciszkowska (Chemistry), Dembek (CBSE), Hsu (Classics), Balk (HNS), Ebert (History), Girelli-Carasi (Mod Lang), Corey (Poli Sci), Adams & Meagher (SEED); School Delegate: Rubinson & (Edu.), Sowers & Vitale (Humanities & Soc Sci.), Dexter & Hardin (Nat. & Bev. Sci.), Massood (Vis., Media & Perform Arts) were absent (-15); Jeffery & Zolkower (Edu) were excused (2); Administrators: Carey, Moore, Conelli, Gilbert, Fitzgerald, Hewitt, Gold & Ali were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (6268) Minutes of March 8, 2016      The minutes of March 8, 2016 were approved with changes.
- (6269) Steering Committee      Special elections for Acting Secretary and one at-large member of the Steering Committee of Faculty Council for the 2016-2017 academic year were conducted. Professor Levy (SEEK) was nominated and elected as Acting Secretary, with a single vote cast by the Secretary. Professor Aja (PRLS) was nominated and elected as at-large member, with a single vote cast by the Secretary.
- An election for the Brooklyn College Association Board was conducted. Professors Manlow (BuMa), MacIntyre (Music), Williams (Acct), Klein (Econ) were elected. Professor Fox (English) was elected as an alternate.
- The results of the University Faculty Senate election were announced. Professors Adams (SEED), Chu (HNS), and Sowers (Classics) were elected to represent full time faculty. Professors Bassell (BuMa) and Fischer (Acct) were elected as alternates.
- The Spring Stated Meeting of the Faculty and State of the College Address will be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 12:30 in Whitman Hall. The meeting will begin promptly at 12:30. Following the program, a luncheon reception will be held on the Whitman stage.
- (6270) Communications from the Administration      President Gould spoke about the New York State budget. She stated that the proposed shift of \$485 million of CUNY's budget from New York State to New York City was not approved. She thanked all those who lobbied in Albany. All of the legislative initiatives that had been cut in the executive budget were restored in the budget, and an additional \$4.1 million for SEEK was included. There were no comments about mandatory experiential learning. In fact, a CUNY task force recommended that CUNY not have mandatory experiential learning, as CUNY campuses are already doing quite a lot of it. There are no new revenues for the TAP gap in the budget. TAP will not cover CUNY tuition in its entirety, so campuses will provide necessary funds. Tied to New York State Governor's idea of shifting \$485 million to the state

was the inclusion of \$240 million for retroactive pay for the contract. The \$240 million funding did not appear in the current budget. However, contract negotiation and mediation are continuing. The Governor's budget director has said that the Governor will entertain costs to cover once an amount has been agreed upon. New York City Mayor de Blasio has indicated that New York City may be receptive to participating. President Gould stated that Chancellor Miliken is dedicated to resolving the contract. There are no new Compact funds, which is good for students, as tuition will not go up. There is a \$16.6 million increase for mandatory costs, which will mean a shortfall of roughly \$20 million across the senior colleges. This will mean a 2% budget cut, which will be a base reduction of roughly half the amount of last fall. Brooklyn College has had, good, steady enrollment a little over target. The Brooklyn College Coutra fund is in relatively good shape. Brooklyn College will have to be careful. This does not mean hiring freezes but a thoughtful look at the budget. The critical maintenance for senior colleges increased to \$143 million, so Brooklyn College will have the capacity to address roof and windows, particularly in Whitehead. The news, then, is not as rosy as we would have liked, especially because of the contract. Finally, the President stated that there is no news about the appointment of Brooklyn College's new president.

Professor Entin asked about the investigation into the events at the February meeting of Faculty Council. President Gould stated that it is still in progress but that she expects to have concluded the process prior to spring break.

Provost Tramontano stated that the Middle States report has been submitted and will be on the portal on Friday. He thanked Assistant Provost Pipe. He stated that the search for the Associate Dean of the Library is nearing completion. The search for the Associate Dean for Institutional Planning and Assessment will continue after spring break. He commented on the COACHE review committees. A number of invitations have gone out to faculty, but responses have not been good. The Provost stated that he will cast a wider net and, perhaps, incentivize the committee work. The Provost declared that he will start the process of planning for possible subline and full-time lines during this week. He will also ask the Deans to look at accompanying staffing issues. He announced that Faculty Council Steering received the administrative response to the Library Report of last fall. He also stated that CUNY Central is focused on retention, and CUNY is getting very good at coming up with different metrics to measure retention rates. He will look at improving retention rates for first time, full-time freshmen between their first and second years.

Professor Estey (Political Science) asked about the response to the Library Report. Professor Langsam stated that the response will be submitted to the Library Committee. Professor MacIntyre asked if CUNY Central had provided evidence about the effect of Pathways on recruitment and retention. The Provost discussed credit accumulation, which means credits attempted and earned, progress to graduation, and the Pathways effect. He stated that a large number of undergraduates are not attempting enough credits in the first place. There is interest in students' taking fifteen credits per semester or "calendar thirty" per year. The Provost stated that research shows that the higher the SAT score upon entrance, the more likely a student is likely to attempt more credits. The Provost stated that this has implications for encouraging students to take the right number of credits so that they graduate in a timely manner. Professor Aja asked if this research controlled for race, class, and gender, to which the Provost responded that he did not believe so. Professor Wills (History) asked if this took into account the number of hours that students work. The Provost responded that there is real debate about that. He raised the question of how many students live at home but do not work. He stated that we should examine this issue closely, especially as the average age of Brooklyn College students is 21. Many Brooklyn College students work, but others do not. Professor Tremper asked how much of a disparity could be charged

to counselling. The Provost stated that high impact learning and good counselling have an effect, and that better retention for transfer students will be key to Brooklyn College's success.

- (6271) Liaison with the University Faculty Senate Professor Queneau (Business Management), the liaison with the University Faculty Senate, reported on the University Faculty Senate meeting of March 29, 2016. He stated that Chancellor Miliken spoke about the budget and was hopeful that New York State would include \$485 million in its budget. He reported on the CUNY working group that was convened to examine free speech. A resolution to affirm the University of Chicago report about freedom of expression was approved. The CUNY working group to consider a similar statement from Purdue. Professor Shortell (Sociology) asked if the Chancellor spoke about a time frame for the resolution about the contract, to which Professor Queneau responded no. Professor Moses (English) asked if the working group was the same as the one that included two former prosecutors. President Gould responded that the CUNY working group is made up primarily of college presidents with General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs Schaffer. The task force that was initially concerned with anti-Semitism will focus on campus climate.
- (6272) Degree Lists Degree List 2016/11 was approved unanimously.
- (6273) Report of Standing Committees
- Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Cohen (Music) presented Curriculum Document 382 with changes. It was approved with a vote of 83 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.
- Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Evans presented Curriculum Documents 233 with changes, which was approved with a vote of 77 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.
- Committee on Course & Standing: Professor Wills presented the Resolution Regarding the Writing Intensive Requirement with changes. It was approved with a vote of 78 yeas, 3 nays, and 1 abstention.
- Committee on Master Planning, Educational Policy & Budget: Professor Bank Muñoz (Sociology) presented the Motion on Future Budget Allocations with changes. The motion was approved with a vote of 79 yeas, 2 nays, and 1 abstention.
- Committee on Academic Integrity: The annual report was presented and accepted.
- (6274) Old Business There was no old business.
- (6275) New Business There was no new business.
- (6276) Adjournment There being no further business, Professor Langsam declared the meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Yedidyah Langsam  
Chair

Martha Nadell  
Secretary