The sixth meeting of Faculty Council for the 2018-2019 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by Professor Langsam (CISC).

The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Basil (Biology), Cox (CIS), Haine (FGSW), Miyano (Physics); School Delegate: Miele (Educ.), Albarillo (Humanities & Soc. Sci.), were absent (-6); Contel (Chemistry), Blitzer (Kinesiology), Banerjee & Bank Munoz (Humanities & Soc. Sci.), Miles (Nat. & Beh Sci.) were excused (-5); Administrators: Feltman, Gold & Ali were also absent and excused. All other members were present.

The minutes of February 19, 2019 & March 12, 2019 were approved unanimously.

Professor Langsam read a minute, written by former Provost Tramontano, about the passing of Maurie Callahan (Provost’s Office):

Maurie Callahan was an incredible person, a man of faith, friends and family who in so many ways was the heart and soul of Brooklyn College. With his encyclopedic mind, a sharp wit, and just plain old fashion common sense, Maurie was the best asset any Provost of Brooklyn College could have ever had. His institutional memory and impeccable sense of what needed to be done and when made my years at Brooklyn College so much easier. And what passion for his beloved Fighting Irish of Notre Dame and all the sports teams of the great city of Chicago. Although Maurie cherished his adoptive Brooklyn home, he remained a man of the Midwest. I know that right now he is having a lively discussion in heaven with anyone and everyone who will listen.

Rest In Peace my friend, yours was a journey that touched many.

Professors Elizade-Utnick (SPCC), Gibney (CHEM), Schiller (ANTH), and Studamire (BIOL) were nominated for the Brooklyn College Association Board.
Professor Langsam announced that the Middle States committee singled President Anderson out for her excellent leadership of Brooklyn College.

President Anderson announced that the Middle States Site Team stated that it “appears” that Brooklyn College has met all of the seven standards. She then described the timetable and possible outcomes for remainder of the accreditation process. She thanked all that participated.

President Anderson provided an update about the Residence Hall, including actions taken to address its administration and management, and its relationship to Brooklyn College and CUNY, as well as the safety and security of students, and housing options for students.

President Anderson announced that the CLAS and SGS undergraduate student governments are in the process of reorganization into a single student government, in response to CUNY’s changes in its admissions module, which eliminates the day and evening designation for students and, therefore, affects student activity fees and services.

President Anderson spoke about budget and fundraising. Brooklyn College has not yet received details about next year’s budget. Brooklyn College received a $1.2M bequest from Grace Marmor Spruch’47 to support the Physics Department. President Anderson informed Faculty Council that Brooklyn College is seeking substantial funding from a foundation to ease the transfer process for undergraduate students. Brooklyn College has proposed two pilot projects: one consists of an evaluation of the credit review process of Kingsborough Community College courses by faculty and the creation of degree maps based on that review. The other project is the development of an on-line tool for Kingsborough students, who could use it to plan a four-year sequence of courses, commencing at Kingsborough and concluding at Brooklyn College. The foundation has requested an “expression of support” for the creation of these pilot projects from Faculty Council, given the Brooklyn College governance plan. President Anderson will take this matter to the appropriate Faculty Council committee.

A discussion about the residence hall, the importance of academic advisement and advisors, the pilot projects, advisement strategies, and the extraordinary effort and labor of Provost during the Middle
States process followed.

Provost Lopes spoke about advisement issues, which came out of the Middle States report. There will be an effort to coordinate advisement across campus and the establishment of an advisement council, which will work on standardizing advisement protocols and advisement language.

(6540) Committee on Committees

There were no nominations.

(6541) Liaison with the University Faculty Senate

Professor Hainline (PSYC) reported on the most recent UFS meeting. See Appendix A.

(6542) Degree Lists

Degree List 2018/19/10 passed with a vote of 90 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

(6543) Report of Standing Committees

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Cohen (MUSC) presented the Appendix for Curriculum Document 249.

Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Shapiro (JUST) presented Curriculum Document 398 with changes. It passed with a vote of 82 yeas, 1 nay, and 0 abstentions. The Special Actions Addendum to CUCDR 398 passed with a vote of 81 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

Committee on Academic Integrity: The annual report was submitted and accepted.

Committee on Computer Utilization & Education Technology: The annual report was submitted and accepted.

General Education: Professor Troyansky (HIST) presented to progress report on International Cultural Competency & STEM alternatives with changes.

(6544) Old Business

There was no old business.

(6545) New Business

There was no new business.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Yedidyah Langsam          Martha Nadell

Chair          Secretary
Appendix A

Notes on UFS Meeting of March 26th, 2019

Louise Hainline

The main item of business at this meeting was continuation of the process of charter revision. This process is designed to keep the charter up-to-date, and hopefully will be continued as an on-going effort in the future. The revision process at this meeting involved bringing the amended articles up for a vote, article by article. Members voted first by a voice vote to allow for any discussion and then officially marked a paper ballot. There was very little substantive discussion of any of the articles, apart from some minor edits, so it seemed as if the charter revisions would be approved in their entirety, but when the UFS members received the report on the paper balloting, all of the articles passed but for one, on Membership. This had not been reflected in “nay” votes during the verbal voting, so what happens now is unclear. I surmise that this rejection of edits in this section might be due to the question of UFS membership for instructional staff, including adjuncts, but we will have to wait to hear more about the results. This leaves the status of the next steps for the charter revision up in the air.

In other matters, nominations for the UFS Executive Committee membership at large are being solicited. Nominees can be from any campus, There is reassigned time for Executive Committee members. A number of current board members were nominated from the floor. Further nominations can be made at the next meeting on May 14.

In terms of new business, the main items were announcements. A symposium on “Mapping the Moral Realm: The Philosophy of Stefan Bernard Baumrin”, in honor of Prof. Baumrin, a long-time CUNY faculty member and UFS representative who passed away last year, will be held on April 29 at the CUNY Graduate Center; registration on the website of the Gotham Philosophical Society is required.

Bill Crain from City College announced a celebration at CCNY on the 50th anniversary of Open Admissions on April 16, 17, and 18th. Details can be found on the City College website.

The UFS Chairperson announced that the Chancellor Designee, Felix Matos Rodriquez, would be holding a retreat with various individuals at CUNY including the Chairperson of UFS on April 6. Presumably we’ll hear how that went at the next UFS meeting, May 14.