

**POLICY COUNCIL
Minutes of the April 18, 2013 Meeting**

Present: Vice President Milga Morales, Assistant Vice President Alan Gilbert, Associate Provost Jerry Mirotznik, Executive Director Jeremy Thompson, AVP Mark Gold, Executive Director Steven Schechter, Dean Willie Hopkins, Dean Kleanthis Psarris, Dean Deborah Shanley, Professor Yedidiah Langsam, Professor Bruce MacIntyre, Professor Andrew Arlig, Professor Moustafa Bayoumi, Professor Namulundah Florence, Professor Mark Kobrak, Professor Paula Massood, Professor Wayne Powell, Abraham Esses, Simon Stern, Washieka Torres, David Rosenberg, Ezriel Strum, Michael Ari Broker, Christian Paylor-Smith, Jouxne Laird.

Excused: Provost William Tramontano, Senior Vice President Joseph Giovannelli, Dean Maria Conelli.

Absent: Dean Kimberley Phillips, Professor Alberto Bursztyn, Professor Ellen Belton, Professor William Childers, Professor Priya Parmar, Brandon Clark, Dilek Sen, Jeremy Simon, and Corine Vialva.

Non-voting: Nicole Haas.

1. The minutes of the March 21, 2013 meeting were approved.
2. President Gould gave an update on funding for open source material. On April 4, 2013 at the *Stated Meeting of the Faculty and State of the College Address*, the President announced that she will allocation \$25,000 over the next two years for faculty development, to work on open source material as part of a broader initiative to address textbook costs for students. The President and Provost will be in consultation with Chief Librarian Stephanie Walker about this project. The goal is to allocate small grants to several faculty members to encourage and reward their participation.
3. Associate Provost Jerry Mirotznik offered a proposed revision to the BC Governance on behalf of the Governance Committee. He noted that the committee reviewed the charges of the seven standing committees and concluded that three had overlapping responsibilities. The committee recommended that the three committees be combined into one and renamed. A formal motion was made both to revise the Governance Plan as well as the by-laws of Policy Council in order to merge the committees. A friendly amendment was offered to change the name which will now read the Fiscal and Infrastructure Planning Committee. A vote was taken and the proposal was unanimously approved.

4. Don Wenz, Director of Public Safety, gave a brief overview of security matters on campus, as well as crime in the surrounding community especially the campus perimeter based on information he received from the local 70th Precinct. Notably, sex crimes have increased dramatically and therefore, he has asked Brooklyn College Public Safety officers to stand outside of their posts in order to have a view of the adjacent streets with pedestrians. He is especially concerned about students who rent apartments locally on Ocean Avenue, and those who live in the residence hall. The precinct has enhanced resources to The Junction and Bedford Avenue in response. There is a problem with “snatch-and-run” cell phone thefts off campus. On campus, problems persist with unattended electronic equipment (cell phones, laptops) being stolen while the owners briefly leave them unattended when going to restrooms. To address this, Public Safety would like to install additional cameras. In the long-term, a new security system with a video monitoring console is currently being procured and should be functional when the new Performing Arts Center opens in 2014. Steven Schechter, Executive Director of Government and External Affairs, noted that roughly one year ago, Public Safety personnel joined him, representatives from Community Board 14 and from the Department of Transportation to review safety issues at the Junction, on Campus Road and on Bedford Avenue and they identified several problems (i.e. missing crosswalk, missing signs) that required attention. He will follow-up.

5. Regarding the BDS Event, President Gould noted that the CUNY Report has been released. She sent an email message to campus community apologizing for the mishandling of the event, and she also wrote personal letters of apology to the four students who were asked to leave the event. In those letters, she invited the students for face-to-face meetings where she and senior administrators could apologize in person and speak with the students. President Gould noted that the report had four broad recommendations and she fully accepted them all as sensible, reasonable and helpful. In fact, the recommendations are applicable to all CUNY institutions. By the fall semester, all of these recommendations will be implemented at Brooklyn College. The CUNY report did not address the issue of terminology i.e. sponsor, host, support. The full report and the issue of nomenclature will be addressed by the External Relations Committee, which will hold a meeting prior to the next meeting of the full Policy Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.