

**POLICY COUNCIL  
Minutes of the May 1, 2014 Meeting**

**Present:** President Karen L. Gould, Provost William Tramontano, Senior Vice President Joseph Giovannelli, Vice President Milga Morales, Associate Provost Terrence Cheng, Assistant Vice President Alan Gilbert, Associate Provost Jerry Mirotznik, Assistant Vice President Jason Carey, Dean Maria Conelli, Dean Willie Hopkins, Interim Dean Matthew Moore, Dean Kleanthis Psarris, Dean Deborah Shanley, Professor Yedidyah Langsam, Professor Kip Marsh, Professor Caroline Arnold, Professor Namulundah Florence, Professor William Gargan, Professor Louise Hainline, David Rosenberg, Ezriel Strum, Robin Cohen, Adam Zauderer.

**Absent:** Professor Douglas Cohen, Professor Prudence Cumberbatch, Professor Graciela Elizalde-Utnick, Professor Amy Hughes, Professor Andrew Arlig, Professor Alex Vitale, Washieka Torres, Salma Abdou, Joseph Grunfeld, Michael Weber, Joseph Awadjie, Keston Boyce, Renee Staker.

**Non-voting:** Nicole Haas.

1. The minutes of the March 20 meeting were amended and approved.
2. President Gould thanked the outgoing student government presidents and introduced the 2014-15 student government presidents: 1) Jennifer Mikhli (CLAS), 2) Michael Esses (SGS), and 3) Joseph Awadjie (GSO).
3. **Student email addresses:** Mark Gold stated that going forward, student emails will be created with a name that matches the CUNYfirst ID and is closer to the student's name i.e. [firstnamelastname@bc.net](mailto:firstname.lastname@bc.net). Vice President Giovannelli noted that CUNY supports a cloud-based student email system at some college campuses and that Brooklyn College will migrate to such a structure in the future. He further noted that increasingly, students do not use email at all which has made it more difficult for universities to communicate with students. David Rosenberg said that directions for students on how to put BC email on their handheld devices should be made easier to find. AVP Jason Carey will be communicating with students on a range of issues, and will include the importance of an email identity in his message.
4. **Course scheduling:** Ezriel Strum, evening student government president, said that there seems to have been a decrease in evening and weekend course offerings over the past few years. Provost Tramontano stated that the college has been responding to student patterns which has driven the scheduling changes i.e. younger students with an increased demand for weekday classes. AP Cheng suggested that

categorizing our students as “day” or “evening” students is not a real reflection of how our academic programs are structured. The concept of evening students is arcane, a product of the open-admissions era when the size of student population meant that many could not get into daytime classes. Professor Langsam gave an historical background of the college with the existence of two colleges in the 1960s, and thus CLAS and SGS were logical divisions; these two schools no longer exist. The CIS department made a 3-year course schedule so that students can plan their semesters in advance. The President stated that there have been conversations at CAP with department chairs regarding schedule management, the concentration of classes at midday on Tuesdays and Thursdays along with midday faculty meetings, and the 2 hours on Tuesdays for student club/common hours. The demand for smart classrooms has led chairs to realize that there needs to be more flexibility and a broader distribution of courses throughout the day. President Gould said that we must begin a conversation next year to change in culture.

5. **Peer Mentoring/Academic Advisement:** Academic Affairs has enhanced peer mentoring for incoming students and intends to hire two new CAAS advisors for traditional office hours; however, such mentoring is not currently available for evening or graduate students. AP Cheng wants to use technology to reach out in non-traditional hours. He has asked for feedback from students and will work with Dr. Lisa Schwebel to identify possible advisors.
6. Engagement of Faculty in Student Life