

**POLICY COUNCIL  
Minutes of the March 30, 2017 Meeting**

**Present:** President Michelle Anderson (chair), Provost William A. Tramontano, SVP Joseph Giovannelli; Associate Provost Matthew Moore, Acting Associate Provost Stuart MacLelland, Associate Vice President Alan Gilbert, Interim Vice President Ronald Jackson, Dean Maria Conelli, Dean Willie Hopkins, Dean Richard Greenwald, Dean Kleanthis Psarris, Assistant Dean Vannessa Green, Professor Yedidiah Langsam, Professor Yehuda Klein, Professor James Lynch, Professor Douglas Cohen, Professor Lynda Day, , Professor Namulundah Florence, Professor William Gargan, Professor Miguel Macias, Professor Helen Phillips, Professor Sophia Suarez, Moshe Norowitz, (SGS), Carolina Guarrella (CLAS), Truth Opaleye (CLAS), Nissim Said (CLAS) Mazel Salame (SGS), Chava Shulman (CLAS).

**Absent:** Dean April Bedford, Professor Beth Evans, Professor Mark Kobrak, Florencia Salinas-Comuzzi, Omari Williams Lauren Abady, Gila Samouha, Elizabeth Koennicke, and Tamim Suhail.

**Non-voting:** Nicole Haas.

1. A moment of silence was held for Professor Emeritus Hy Sardy.
2. The minutes of the December 8, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. An announcement was made about the upcoming faculty elections for the 2017-2019 term. The nomination period will be the week of April 3rd and the election will be held the week of May 1st.
4. Ms. Palma Dellaporta, Associate Director of Enrollment Advocacy, explained the registration process as it applies to students with disabilities. She will meet with members of student government for their input.
5. FAFSA forms are federal government forms over which the college has no control. However, Enrollment Services provides multi-lingual workshops now that the automatic infilling of tax information is no longer in place.
6. SUBO ADA-entrance does not meet contemporary compliance standards. The College submitted a request to the New York City Council for \$2million to do an upgrade; the budget will be finalized in June. ADA-related topics will be discussed at the joint meeting of the Policy Council and Faculty Council facilities committees.
7. Steven Schechter, Executive Director Government and External Affairs, gave a brief overview of the hours of operation at the athletic center which were reduced at the start of the spring semester. Athletics is currently gathering better usage data, and will convene a small taskforce to examine membership pricing given the locally competing facilities, as well as rental rates. Student Government will prepare 5 questions for the NSSE survey to query students about their facilities use habits and needs.
8. Students voiced frustration regarding seating capacity in assigned classrooms. Often, the number of students exceeds the chair capacity. The shifting of chairs between rooms, overtallies, pedagogical needs that do not always correspond with

legal seating limits, scheduling preferences that lead to high demand for classrooms at the same time limiting room-shifting flexibility, and larger than expected registration were cited as possible reasons for this discrepancy. VP O'Reilly will consult with the Scheduling Office to ensure that faculty requests for room changes are addressed and accommodated when possible. There needs to be better communications between the administration, faculty and students when we encounter problems in order to address them.

9. Barnes and Noble will no longer have a store as of June 2017; Akademos will be the new virtual vendor. The bookstore space needs to be re-purposed, prioritizing essential student services. Suggestions are being solicited. Currently under consideration are relocating 1) the Health Clinic and 2) Disabilities Office. Student Government has requested student representation on any committee that is involved in deciding on the use of this space.
10. The Room of Reflection has been completed. Rules and regulations are being promulgated regarding the appropriate use of the space.
11. Regarding digital swipe cards, the College ITS office is currently working on parallel ID cards. VP Giovannelli will get more information about the status and report back to find out the status and timeline for implementation, and also to see what security features are to be incorporated.
12. Separate from the federally-mandated Clearly Act reporting requirements, the Office of Public Safety prepares quarterly security reports with other data from incidences on campus that are not required to appear in the Cleary Report. Public Safety will work with the Communications Office to set up a webpage on the BC Portal where this information can be posted.
13. Students requested that official meeting minutes and the bylaws for such bodies be archived and available online. The Faculty Council webpage will be updated this summer and a webpage for Policy Council minutes will be created.
14. Students are advocating for representation on the Faculty Council. Currently, students already serve on committees but have no vote. Students want to have a small number of representatives to serve on the Faculty Council with voice and vote. Such a small contingency would enable the student stance on issues to be reflected on record. There was robust discussion about the merits of this request and how it would require a change in practice, culture and governance.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Carolina Guarrella, Secretary