

**Brooklyn College  
Policy Council  
Minutes of the  
November 9, 2017 Meeting**

Call to order – 12:38PM

**Present:** President Michelle Anderson (chair), Provost William A. Tramontano, Associate Provost Matthew Moore, Executive Director Steven Schechter, Assistant Vice President Jason Carey, Vice President Ronald Jackson, Dean Willie Hopkins, Dean Maria Conelli, Acting Dean Kenneth Gould, Professor Yehuda Klein, Professor David Balk, Professor Myles Bassell, Professor Alberto Bursztyn, Professor Mobina Hashmi, Professor Helen Phillips, Professor Janet Grommet, Menachem Eidelman (SGS), Nissim Said (CLAS), Zunera Ahmed (CLAS), Marc Pfeiffer (SGS).

**Maybe:** Dean Kleanthis Psarris, Professor Yedidyah Langsam, Professor Douglas Cohen, Professor Miguel Macias, Professor Jocelyn Wills, Mazal Salaame (SGS), Dean April Bedford, Professor Lynda Day.

**Absent:** SVP Joseph Giovannelli, Truth Opaleye (CLAS), Chava Shulman (CLAS), Elizabeth Koennicke (GSO).

**Non-voting:** Nicole Haas.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 19, 2017 meeting
  - a. There are no corrections to be made.
  - b. Zunera Ahmed moves to approve the minutes from October 19, 2017.
  - c. Professor David Balk seconds the motion.
  - d. Minutes from October 19, 2017 unanimously pass.
2. Responsibilities of Deans and Role of Academic Schools
  - a. President Anderson
3. Standing Committees – timing of committee formation, as well as assignment of topics for review by i) Faculty/Student Relations Committee, ii) Fiscal, Infrastructure and Planning Committee and iii) External Relations Committee
  - a. Administration and Faculty members have filled their slates.
  - b. Nissim Said: CLAS and SGS have filled their required seats. GSO must provide names of the students that will be in the remaining seats.

- c. Professor David Balk: Faculty member, Melissa Fuster-Rivera, would like to serve on the committee of faculty-student relations.
  - d. Associate Provost Matthew Moore suggests to view the bylaws because there maybe a rule on proportions in relation to the other constituencies.
  - e. Provost William A. Tramontano offers to fill in for SVP Joseph Giovannelli in the committee
    - i. President Anderson responds: Alan Gilbert will be stepping into that role and thanks Provost William A. Tramontano for the offer.
  - f. Nissim Said moves to approve the slate pending GSO's addition.
  - g. Professor Yehuda Klein seconds the motion.
  - h. The motion passes unanimously.
4. President Anderson describes a concern raised during the meeting of the executive committee. The committee would like to assemble slates during the summer or at the end of the Spring semester. This would allow committees to dive into work immediately when the fall semester begins.
- a. President Anderson asks for any objections.
  - b. There are none, therefore slates will be prepared during a meeting prior to the Spring semester.
5. Assignments for committees
- a. Executive Committee
    - i. Professor Mobina Hashmi asks if they have a mandate role
    - ii. President Anderson responds that it should be in the Bylaws
    - iii. Nissim Said reads the Policy Council Bylaws for the Executive Committee
  - b. Governance Committee
    - i. Nissim Said reads the Policy Council Bylaws for the Governance Committee
    - ii. Professor Yehuda Klein asks Associate Provost Matthew Moore to clarify the role of the committee in the governance plan
    - iii. Associate Provost Matthew Moore responds the committee simply makes recommendations
    - iv. Professor David Balk asks if the committee covers Deans and Academic schools.
    - v. Associate Provost Matthew Moore responds it depends
    - vi. Acting Dean Kenneth Gould asks about the report from the inter disciplinary committee that was formed from C.A.P.
    - vii. President Anderson responds the report will be sent out.
  - c. Faculty/Student Relations Committee
    - i. Nissim Said reads the Policy Council Bylaws for the Faculty/Student Relations Committee
    - ii. Professor Mobina Hashmi raises two concerns on campus amongst students that should be looked into by this committee. The two concerns include DACA and campus sexual assault.
      - 1. Zunera Ahmed discusses that students are not aware of who to go to when a sexual assault occurs and they do not feel as they know what happens after a report.

- iii. Professor David Balk raises the issue of students grieving the death of a family member. Students must go to individual professors to discuss absences and assignments because there is no policy.
  - 1. Vice President Ronald Jackson speaks about the Ombudsperson on campus. The ombudsperson should be doing the legwork of notifying professors. There is no current policy.
  - 2. Nissim Said says that many students are not aware of the ombudsperson. Nissim suggests a policy or notice should be placed in the class syllabus.
  - 3. Professor Helen Phillips agrees this should be placed in the syllabus.
- d. Fiscal, Infrastructure and Planning Committee
  - i. Dean Maria Conelli thinks the committee should focus on well being of the students.
  - ii. Nissim Said reads the Policy Council Bylaws for the Fiscal, Infrastructure and Planning Committee.
  - iii. Provost William A. Tramontano believes this committee can conduct research to help prioritize where money should be spent.
  - iv. Professor Mobina Hashmi asks if the College does Participatory Budgeting.
    - 1. Nissim Said responds no, but CLAS student government does it every year. This year \$30,000 has been allocated for the project.
  - v. President Anderson is working on getting a master list of facilities and equipment to see when they were last updated and their current condition.
- e. External Relations Committee
  - i. President Anderson describes the challenging time to be lobbying due to the political climate in Albany.
  - ii. Nissim Said emphasizes the need for the Governor's investment. Nissim believes the committee should be tasked with research.

Provost William A. Tramontano leaves the meeting.

- iii. Executive Director Steven Schechter tells the council that CUNY central is looking closely at the "ask" individual colleges make for capital money.

President Anderson asks the council to review the dates for future meetings.

Meeting ended at 1:29PM