

**BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

FACULTY COUNCIL

May 10, 2011

- (5808) Call to order The eighth meeting of Faculty Council for the 2010-2011 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by the chair, Professor Pérez y González (PRLS).
- (5809) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Bankoff (Anthro & Archae), Hadler (Art), Juszczak (Chemistry), Yarrow (Classics), Bell (Finance), Liu & Tung (Physics); Divisional Delegates: Grochowalski (Children & Youth Stud.), Estey & Louis (Social Sci.) were absent (-10); Jones (Science) were excused (-1); Administrators: Perez, Green, Hewitt, Gilbert, Joyner, Czirak, Hainline, Sillen Gould & Rodriguez were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (5810) Minutes of April 12, 2011 Professor Nadell (English) presented the minutes of April 12, 2011. The minutes were approved with corrections.
- (5811) Steering Committee Nominations to the Brooklyn College Association Board were taken. Professors Daraviras (SEEK), Menser (Philosophy), and Fox (English) were nominated.
- Professor Pérez y González announced that Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Logue and Associate University Provost Wrigley will attend a meeting about CUNY General Education and Transfer Articulation on Thursday May 12, 2011 from 10:00 – 11:00 at the Woody Tanger Auditorium in the Library.
- The Ad Hoc Committee on Aligning Faculty Workload with College Goals will have a town hall luncheon on May 17, 2011 in the Multipurpose Room (411) in the Library.
- (5812) Communications from the Administration Provost Tramontano informed Faculty Council that President Gould would be unable to attend Faculty Council on that day, as she was in a meeting at CUNY central.
- Vice President for Finance and Administration Little spoke about the budget. First, there is a \$3.2 million deficit for FY2012. Second, the ERI replacements have a cost saving of roughly \$4 million, which will be held until the administration hears about the base budget reduction for FY2012. Third, there is the possibility of a \$40 million tuition revenue. The state is working on this with CUNY. More information should be available by the first week of June.
- Provost Tramontano continued with a further discussion about the budget. He addressed the \$3.2 million reduction. The first phase will be a 10% base reduction in OTPS, temp service, and postage, resulting in a \$1.5 million in savings. This will affect everyone across the college. The second phase will explore the other parts of the budget over which we have control. The adjunct budget, which is well over \$10 million, will be addressed. CAP is investigating the possibility of faculty getting workload credit for larger sections. There will also be a detailed analysis of all of the reassigned time distributed to faculty. Even though there are 525 teaching faculty, between 180 and 200 lines of faculty are not teaching. These many hours of not teaching is driving the adjunct budget up. Are there legacies that are no longer germane that are driving these numbers? All of the provosts at CUNY are going through this same exercise. This has led to uncertainty about what we can do in the fall. We may try reallocation, but until the budget is confirmed the uncertainty will remain. In addition, the administration is thinking about lines for fall 2012 (FY2013) and is looking to CUNY for guidance about that. However, we don't know any more right now about the budget and may not have to implement some of these strategies. Professor Meagher (Education) asked why the administration was holding the ERI savings back. VP Little responded that CUNY Central had asked for

that. Professor Tremper (English) asked about moving funds from OTPS to cover the 10% reduction in temp services. VP Little said that departments would be free to do that.

Provost Tramontano alerted Faculty Council that there would be a launch of the strategic plan for members of the working committee. The final version will be on the website and go to 80th Street. The final version of the facilities master plan will be completed by May 24, but will not go to the Board of Trustees until the September 2011 meeting. However, it will count as being accomplished this year. It will guide Brooklyn College for the next 10-15 years. The provost thanked everyone involved in getting things done in this year of transition.

Provost Tramontano described a productive meeting of the provosts' ad hoc committee on general education. He informed the meeting that Brooklyn College is dedicated to the core curriculum. It fits well with what CUNY is asking for. There will be continued discussions when EVC Logue visits Brooklyn College.

The provost then turned to the Bulletin. We are at the end of the process for the 2010-2011 Bulletin. There is still some work to do, but we are going forward in 2011-2012 with a streamlined process. The 2010-2011 Bulletin will be done by the time students leave.

The provost then spoke about Dean Hainline, who will be stepping down from her position as graduate dean. He described the deep love and appreciation the Brooklyn College community has for Dean Hainline and her tremendous career at Brooklyn College. She will remain an important part of academic affairs. She received a round of applause.

Professor Sardy (Economics) asked who was responsible for the difficulties with the 2010-2011 Bulletin and asked if that person was fired. He recommended strongly that someone be held responsible. The provost responded that it was unclear where responsibility for the Bulletin was located, given the number of offices involved in the process. Professor MacIntyre (Music) asked about the \$40 million cut. He asked if CUNY had a strategy or campaign to address this. The provost stated that there is information on the PSC website and that there are letters to send to legislators to urge them to realize the \$40 million in additional tuition revenue for fall 2011. There is a large initiative for SUNY and with SUNY getting some of its wishes, CUNY has a good chance of telling the legislature to step up to the plate. A number of State Senators who are hesitant about this are from Nassau County. Brooklyn College has fewer than 1000 students from Nassau County. At Queens College, the number is 5000 out of 20000 students. It is important for Nassau to understand what CUNY does for Nassau County. Professor Okome (Political Science) asked about travel funds, now that Dean Hainline is stepping down. Provost Tramontano stated that this responsibility will be distributed among the deans. In addition, he stated that we have to get the base up for travel monies. Professor Grommet (H & N) asked about the graduate bulletin. Provost Tramontano stated that it was not ready, but departments will have a chance to look at it again. Professor Hashmi (TV & R) asked how to deal with different class sizes and different types of classes. She raised the question of multiple-choice tests versus essays in varying sizes of classes. Provost Tramontano stated that the committee has brought up that question. Graders may be part of a model that addresses this issue. In general biology at Hunter, there are 700 in one class. Students take multiple-choice exams and write essays, which are graded by a grader. In short, there are a number of different models.

(5813) Committee on Professor Langsam (CIS) presented the slate of nominees for the 2011-2012 academic year. He thanked all volunteers and noted that there is a vacancy on the Core Curriculum Committee. Faculty Council voted to accept the nominees with a vote of 76 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention. Professor Pérez y González thanked Professor Langsam all who served.

(5814) Liaison with University Faculty Senate Professor Jacobson (H & N) reported on the University Faculty Senate. First, she mentioned the \$40 million, which had been discussed earlier in the meeting. The UFS hopes that this will go forward. Second, she reported that Chancellor Goldstein stated that he had been participating in regional councils, between SUNY, CUNY, and the business community. He wants CUNY to play a pivotal role in job creation and new educational programs. The chancellor mentioned that the Pell grants were not slashed, but he is worried about TAP. We may go through the \$5000 ceiling for TAP. The chancellor is visiting all campuses and holding open meeting. There was a vigorous debate about general education and transfer credit. There are two proposals. The findings on general education are based on a conference held on Friday, April 8, 2011. The conference was well attended by faculty governance leaders and representatives from each campus. The resolution on general education reads as follows: "The University Faculty Senate strongly recommends in order to preserve the richness of general education that the general education requirements at the undergraduate colleges of CUNY be composed of 30 credits plus at least an additional 16 credits to be resolved by the appropriate curriculum committees of the colleges, rather than the proposal in the Draft 30 + 6." The Resolution on Transfer reads: "The University Faculty Senate strongly recommends ON TRANSFER that: 1. for externally accredited programs (e.g., Nursing, engineering) and other high credit majors, clear-cut University wide course requirements be developed to ensure students success in the transfer process. 2. An appeals committee be created by the UFS and the OAA to decide on requests from colleges for waivers. 3. Curricular counseling for students be extensively improved."

Professor Pérez y González added that UFS Chair Cooper said there will be a public hearing that will include a discussion of general education. It will take place on June 20, 2011 in conjunction with the Bronx Borough Hearing at Hostos Community College. To attend and to speak, sign up by June 17 at 4:30 pm. You may call 212-754-5450. If you are unable to attend, you may e-mail Senior Vice Chancellor and Board Secretary Jay Hershenson. Professor Jacobson stated that the chancellor has repeatedly stated that the process will be faculty driven and that there is hope that when the resolution comes before the board there will be significant changes.

(5815) Degree Lists Degree lists 2011/27, 28, 29, 30,31, & 32 6 were presented by Professor Bowdoin (Library) and were approved. Faculty Council thanked Professor Bowdoin and the Registrar for their efforts.

(5815) Report of Standing Committees Professor Pérez y González thanked all of the committees for their hard work.

Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Tenenbaum (CIS) presented Curriculum Document 346. The document was approved with corrections. Provost Tramontano thanked the Chemistry Department for changes in the organic chemistry course.

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Florence (Ed) presented Curriculum Document 203. The document was approved. Professor Florence presented the annual report, which was accepted.

Committee on Computer Utilization & Education Technology presented a resolution to increase the number of smart classrooms, enable wireless access throughout the campus at a reasonable speed, and enable access to Internet2. The resolution was approved. In addition, the annual report was accepted.

Committee on Review of Programs: Professor Grubbs (Music) presented the "Resolution on Interdisciplinary Programs and CAP." After a discussion and a successful calling of the question, the resolution was approved with a vote of 63 yeas, 6 nays, and 1 abstention. The annual report was accepted. Professor Grubbs thanked the heads of interdisciplinary programs. Professor Tomkiewicz

(Physics) thanked Professor Grubbs for his efforts and asked that Faculty Council reconsider the rule that limits participation on committees to three years so that Professor Grubbs may continue to serve.

Committee on Honors, Citations, and Awards: Professor Walker (Library) presented the report, which was accepted.

Committee on Academic Integrity: Professor Evans (Library) presented the annual report, which was accepted.

Committee on Admissions: Professor Daraviras presented the annual report, which was accepted.

Committee on Core Curriculum: On behalf of the chair, Professor Langsam presented the annual report, which was accepted.

Committee on Graduate Admissions: Professor Shortell (Sociology) presented the annual report with one correction. The report was accepted.

Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics: The annual report was accepted.

Committee on Research: Professor Cheng (EES) presented the annual report, which was accepted.

(5816) Old Business There was no old business.

(5817) New Business Professor Moore (Philosophy) presented the "Resolution on General Education, Transfer, and Faculty Governance," which was approved with 74 yeas, 2 nays, and 1 abstention. Professor Tremper presented a resolution concerning the Board of Trustees' recent denial of an honorary degree to playwright Tony Kushner. Professor Langsam made a motion to omit the third whereas clause. Professor Tenenbaum called the question, which passed with 52 yeas, and 24 nays. A vote to omit the third whereas failed with a vote of 38 yeas, 35 nays, and 3 abstentions. Professor Meagher proposed the following change to the third whereas: "Faculty Council of Brooklyn College deplores the actions of one member of the CUNY Board of Trustees because of that Trustee's political position and mischaracterization of Mr. Kushner's opinions about Israel." The proposal was not seconded. Professor Martinez (PRLS) suggested the following change in the third whereas: "Brooklyn College deplores the actions of the entire CUNY Board of Trustees, which permitted the mischaracterization of Mr. Kushner's opinions about Israel." The proposal was seconded. After some discussion, Professor Tenenbaum called the question, which failed with 44 yeas, 31 nays, and 1 abstention. After some discussion, Professor Tremper called the question, which passed with a vote of 63 yeas and 12 nays. The vote on Professor Martinez's amendment passed with a vote of 52 yeas, 18 nays, and 2 abstentions. Professor Wills (History) called the question on the revised resolution. This passed with 63 yeas, 9 nays, and 1 abstention. The resolution passed with 57 yeas, 13 nays, and 1 abstention.

(5818) Adjournment There being no further business, the Chair thanked the members of Faculty Council for their efforts throughout the year and declared the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

María Pérez y González,
Chair

Martha Nadell,
Secretary

