

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

FACULTY COUNCIL

February 14, 2012

- (5867) Call to order The fifth meeting of Faculty Council for the 2011-2012 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by the chair, Professor Pérez y González (PRLS).
- (5868) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Thomas (Africana), Bankoff (Anthro & Archae), Jayaraman (Political Sci.), Nunez (SEED), Gould & Shortell (Sociology), Epstein (Speech); Divisional Delegates: Grubbs (Art), Menser (Humanities), Perdikaris, Sharman & Wills (Social Sci.) were absent (-12); were excused (-0); Administrators: Perez, Shanley, Green, Hewitt, Gilbert, Joyner, Czirak, Rodriguez, Psarris & Hopkins were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (5869) Minutes of November 8, 2011 Professor Nadell (English) presented the minutes of December 13, 2011. The minutes were approved with corrections with a vote of 65 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.
- (5870) Steering Committee Professor Pérez y González opened with Happy Valentine's Day wishes for Faculty Council. She then opened nominations for the Brooklyn College Association to replace Professor Daraviras (SEEK) for the Spring 2012 semester. Professors Florence (SEED) and Okome (Political Science) were nominated. She then announced that nominations and elections for the University Faculty Senate will be held on-line between February 27 and March 2, 2012 and March 19 and March 23, respectively.
- (5871) Communications from the Administration President Gould welcomed Faculty Council members back to campus for the spring semester. She opened with an announcement about fundraising. Because of the generosity, love, and caring of Brooklyn College alumnus Daniel Lyons, Brooklyn College has received a generous donation. Lyons, who passed away in the fall of 2011, left funds of roughly \$950,000, which will help complete the endowment for a professorship in American history. This donation is a testament to his love of history despite his being in business. He also left \$1 million for a fund for needy students, and Brooklyn College will be able to use the principal of this fund. In addition, Lyons left roughly \$100,000 for prizes in economics and history.
- President Gould then discussed progress on the technology front. Brooklyn College will move forward with a full technology review. Brooklyn College will engage the services of two outside consultants. The criteria for the choice of consultants include the following: the consultants must currently serve or have served at public institutions with lean budgets; they will have to have managed to make strong headway in those environments, and they will seek input from multiple constituencies. The consultants, who will not be from CUNY or from New York State, will engage the relevant Faculty Council committee and other appropriate bodies and investigate functionality, infrastructure, training, contributions and customer service. The consultants will provide action items, rather than help create a strategic plan. President Gould asked any interested parties to contact Nicole Hosten-Haas via e-mail. She reiterated that this is an important process, as Brooklyn College is known for its technology. At this point in time, a reassessment of technology is necessary, a reassessment that will take into account technology issues beyond the control of Brooklyn College.
- President Gould then discussed the budget. As Chancellor Goldstein and others continue to note, there is "stability" in the budget, although students may not view

rising tuition fees in the same manner. Brooklyn College can anticipate relative stability for the 2012-2013 year, which is dependent on enrollment stability. Enrollment growth during the 2011-2012 year is relatively flat, and we are not expecting large growth. However, there is pressure from system transfers, especially because of growth at the two-year colleges. In the spring semester, there are 1100 new transfer students. Brooklyn College will continue to fulfill its commitments to those who took the ERI, but hiring will be a top priority in the year to come. Brooklyn College will look to replace lost positions at the faculty and staff level and will bolster budgets that have been reduced or jeopardized. Brooklyn College will look to replenish some of OTPS and temporary services and to carefully manage the adjunct budget, though it will be challenging.

President Gould publically acknowledged the long time service and dedication of former Vice President Little, who has retired. She thanked Assistant Vice President for Finance, Budget and Planning/Comptroller Alan Gilbert, who is serving as interim CFO of Administration and Finance. The President is in the process of engaging a search firm and has asked the Provost to chair the search. The President thanked the Provost and remarked that they are discussing the membership of the committee. A formal announcement about the membership of the search committee, which will include representation that fully reflects the broad range of responsibilities and areas that are in the portfolio of the Vice President for Administration and Finance, is forthcoming.

Acting CFO Gilbert thanked the many people who offered kind words, calls, and e-mails. He stated that after 4 years of bad budget news, CUNY's rational tuition policy will provide some steady increases in the revenue stream over the next few years. Operationally, it is still too early to tell what that means, but he, along with the President, hope to replenish some of the \$17 million lost in previous years' budget cuts and to build on some of the strategic initiatives mentioned in the strategic plan. In facilities, there will be work on more rationalized process that can address as many needs as possible in a more organized fashion.

Provost Tramontano reported that Brooklyn College has been chosen by CUNY Central to pilot the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA). Assistant Provost Wagner will be the CLA coordinator on campus, and one hundred first time, full time freshmen and 100 seniors will take part in the process. The Provost stressed the importance of student buy-in so that the process goes well. In addition, there will be training for the administration of the CLA. He stated that faculty were important in helping with the student buy-in and that all of CUNY will use the CLA in the Fall of 2012. He thanked faculty members for help with buy-in.

Provost Tramontano then turned to Pathways. He urged everyone to visit the following website: <http://www.cuny.edu/academics/initiatives/degreepathways.html>. CUNY has an April 1, 2012 deadline for an implementation plan for the general education framework from all CUNY campuses. This is also the day that campuses may apply for help for implementation. CUNY has established 8 common core committees, and Brooklyn College has representatives on each of them. The committees consist of 17-19 members each and will do their work with file-sharing systems throughout 2012. The committees will make sure that courses submitted fit each learning outcome or bucket. Other committees, including the majors committees, are at work as well. In addition, CUNY Central has established an implementation committee, on which Associate Provost Wilson will serve as the Brooklyn College representative. This committee will work with changes to Degree Works, TIPPS, admissions, and other non-academic issues. Everything to do with Pathways, the Provost states, is a joint effort between faculty and administration, which is why a number of general discussion sessions will take place over the next weeks to talk about what Brooklyn College will put forth on April 1, 2012. These discussions will help produce an outline document that includes some general principles for course selections for the buckets. What CUNY wants by April 1, 2012 is a broad idea of what will be in place, in other words the broad parameters.

Involved Brooklyn College bodies, including a number of Faculty Council committees (Core, Undergraduate Curriculum, Academic Foundations) as well as a number of individuals (including students, Associate Provost Wilson, and Provost Tramontano) will form a steering committee. The challenging discussions will take place later. Final decisions must be delivered to CUNY Central by December 1, 2012. The Provost thanked Associate Provost Wilson and Professor Moore (Philosophy) for their efforts.

A number of questions arose about an issue relating to 3 hours of instructional time, and 4 hours of workload time, which is standard for composition courses in the majority of CUNY campuses and at Brooklyn College. Professor Fox (English) raised the possibility of altering CUNY Central's stance toward reduction of workload hours. Professor Tremper (English) raised concerns about the degradation of student learning and the faculty and adjunct status. Professor Tremper also raised the issue of transferability of students from CUNY to other institutions. Professor MacIntyre (Music) asked if the provost had been pressured to come up with a budgetary model based on the reduction of workload hours. Professor Powell (EES) asked what faculty could do to help move CUNY away from the reduction of the 3/4 model to the 3/3. The Provost raised the possibility of a write-in campaign. Professor Entin (English and American Studies) asked who was making decisions about this issue. Professor Pérez y González reported about a meeting of CUNY faculty governance leaders, which took place on February 10, 2012. She stated that Chancellor Goldstein and General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs Schaffer made a report and were asked about the 3/4 issue. The Chancellor referred questions to Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Logue. SVC Schaffer did not understand why 3 hours and 3 credits were not acceptable. Professor Pecorino (Queensborough) explained Carnegie units, extra hours, and New York State law giving the decision about hours to faculty. Faculty governance leaders will send a statement to all campuses about their stance on this issue. Professor Lipke (Biology) stated that EVC Logue has been taken to task for lack of lab hours and that CUNY biology departments may have a single syllabus for their entry-level biology classes. Professor Fox questioned if Pathways was, in fact, pursuing "best practices." Professor Pérez y González reported that the issue of transferability beyond CUNY was brought up to the Chancellor, who responded that CUNY did not want students transferring out of the university.

Professor MacIntyre (Music) spoke about the possibility of a retirement party for former Vice President Little and requested further information about his retirement.

(5872) Committee on Professor Langsam (CIS) presented the nomination of Professor Hadler (Art) to the Core Curriculum Committee. Secretary of Faculty Council Nadell cast a vote, and Professor Hadler was elected.

(5873) Degree Lists Degree lists 2012/19, 20, 21, & 22 were presented by Professor Thurm (CIS) and were approved with a vote of 77 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.

(5874) Report of Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Tenenbaum (CIS) presented Curriculum Document 351. The document was approved with a vote of 75 yeas, 1 nay, and 2 abstentions.

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Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Ball (Art) presented Curriculum Document 205. The document was approved with a vote of 71 yeas, 1 nay, and 2 abstentions.

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Committee on Honorary Degrees: Professor Pérez y González presented the annual report on behalf of Professor Chopra (Philosophy). The document was approved with a vote of 65 yeas, 5 nays, and 5 abstentions.

(5875) Old Business There was no old business.

(5876) New Business      The Committee on Master Planning, Educational Policy, and Budget and the Committee on the Library presented a joint resolution to call for the reinstatement of funds to the library. Professor MacIntyre spoke about the loss of funds, which has resulted in cuts to staffing and to open hours. Professor Weis (Film) asked how many people used the library during the times that were cut, to which Professor Walker (Library) responded roughly 150. Professor Raphan (CIS) asked how much money would be involved in restoring hours, to which Professor Walker responded roughly \$39,000. Professor Langsam asked what message Brooklyn College is sending to its students when it is cancelling multiple, fully enrolled classes. Professor Moore stated that the cuts affected not only those studying in the library, but also those hosting events, such as conferences, in the library. The resolution was passed with a vote of 62 yeas, 7 nays, and 3 abstentions.

(5877) Adjournment      There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

María Pérez y González,  
Chair

Martha Nadell,  
Secretary