

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
FACULTY COUNCIL

April 14, 2015

- (6166) Call to order The seventh meeting of Faculty Council for the 2014-2015 academic year was called to order at 3:32 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by Professor Langsam (CIS).
- (6167) Roll Call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Ciszowska (Chemistry), Watson (SEEK), Adams (SEED); School Delegates: Remy & Minter (Humanities & Social Sci.), Perdikaris (Nat. & Behav. Sci.), were absent; Llanos (Modern Lang) was excused; Administrators: Gould, Sillen, Carey, Gilbert, Fitzgerald, Hewitt, Gold & Ali were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (6168) Minutes of March 10, 2015 Professor Langsam announced that the minutes of the March 10, 2015 meeting would be presented at the May 5 meeting.
- (6169) Steering Committee Professor Langsam asked members to please return any clickers that they may have forgotten to hand in.
- Professor Langsam opened nominations for a panel of up to six faculty members from which the President will choose one for the Brooklyn College Association Board. Professors Len Fox (English) and Bruce MacIntyre (Music) were nominated.
- Professor Langsam announced the results of the election for representatives from the Brooklyn College fulltime faculty to the University Faculty Senate:
- For a three-year term ending May 2018: Professors Len Fox, Louise Hainline (Psychology), Herve Queneau (Finance & Business Mgt) and Judith Wild (Library);
- For a one-year term as alternate senators ending May 2016: Professors Brian Sowers (Classics) and Sophia Suarez (Physics)
- Professor Langsam explained that faculty would be shortly receiving an e-mail announcing the triennial election for school representatives for Faculty Council will be held after triennial departmental elections and will be done electronically.
- (6170) Communications from the Administration Provost Tramontano spoke for President Gould who sent her regards from Paris and Germany where she was establishing new contacts with several universities on behalf of Brooklyn College.
- Provost Tramontano presented news about the budget. In terms of the State operating budget, the good news is that the State included an extra \$12 million for CUNY senior colleges to implement a performance improvement plan (PIP). There will be an increase of \$60.8 million in tuition revenue in the fall from the final year of the Compact. An additional \$3.9 million has been allocated to SEEK. On the minus side, there is no money provided for the \$51 million in mandatory increases for next fiscal year. This means that the majority of the tuition increases from the Compact will need to be used for additional fringe benefit costs and mandated increases, etc. Brooklyn College will probably need \$2 million for these

mandatory costs and increased fringe benefits. There is no provision in the budget for money for a new collective bargaining agreement, which means any increases associated with a new agreement would also have to come out of the College's budget. There was also no TAP increase, or provision for the Dream Act. There was an increase of \$103 million for the senior colleges for critical college maintenance. The Governor also put in a \$55 million installment for CUNY 2020. Last year \$7.7 million of the CUNY 2020 money was used for the Science and Resilience Center in Jamaica Bay, and they are starting to look at new projects that would probably be in the health care, business and maybe additional environmental projects for CUNY 2020. There was no additional funding for the Roosevelt Science Teaching Commons. As to non-direct budget costs in the new budget, there is a required experiential learning component and potential limitations on graduate education admissions.

Provost Tramontano was pleased to announce that CUNY has hired a new Executive Vice Chancellor: Vita Rabinowitz, the current Provost of Hunter College.

(6171) Committee on Committees

Professor Shortell (Sociology) announced that the committee would meet on Thursday to form next year's Faculty Council committees; he asked for volunteers for committees, for flexibility and for faculty willing to chair committees. Professor Shortell reminded faculty of the importance of having school balance especially on key committees.

(6172) Liaison with the University Faculty Senate

Professor Fox submitted the following report from the March 24, 2015 Meeting of the CUNY University Faculty Senate:

The guest speaker was University Dean for Enrollment Management Robert Ptachik. The Dean reported that overall projected CUNY enrollment for Fall 2015 is holding steady at about 274,000 students, but he has a number of concerns. One is that the total number of students attending and graduating from NYC public high schools is projected to decrease, which would mean a decrease in the number of students applying to CUNY. In recent years, NYC public high schools have been graduating a slightly higher percentage of students, probably due to increased retention efforts focused on weaker students who in the past would have dropped out or gotten GEDs. Most of these students have probably been applying to the two-year colleges, which are fully enrolled. Some smaller NYC colleges may close in the future due to reduced enrollment and financial trouble. Dean Ptachik is particularly concerned about reduced enrollment in masters programs. It would be good to market these programs more, although it is hard to compete with, for example, Cornell, which has a \$500,000 marketing budget for its MBA program. Recent market research focus groups indicated that Baruch is the only CUNY college that has a brand name due to its business school. CUNY has about 26% of total graduate enrollments in NYC. Much of masters enrollment is in teacher education programs. It is understandable if these applicants would prefer to go to NYU or Columbia, which are high prestige programs, but the masters education program that receives the highest percentage by far of CUNY graduates is Touro College whose programs may not match the caliber of CUNY's but is far more effective in recruiting and communicating with students who are accepted into their programs.

Dean Ptachik said the Governor and State Legislature feel we are graduating too many teacher education students as there are not enough teaching jobs in NYS and the quality of the graduates is not very good. For example, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the students who graduate from the Brooklyn College education program are transfer students from community colleges, who might not be our strongest students. The certifying exams are getting harder to pass and more expensive to take. The Governor and Legislature are considering decertifying teacher education programs if not enough of their graduates are being certified. This could lead to such programs accepting fewer students, getting smaller, and having higher requirements for acceptance, e.g., higher SAT scores and GRE entrance requirements, which could have a

negative effect on admitting students of color. All of this could have a negative effect on graduating students who will want to teach in the NYC public schools.

Dean Ptachik believes CUNY must be more proactive and effective in recruiting students, especially into its masters programs. Enrollment management offices should reach out to involve more faculty, and faculty need to work more on graduate recruitment/admissions-related events and activities. Successful alumni should be recruited to participate in such activities, and greater efforts should be made to market programs. He mentioned that the MSW program at Hunter admits only about 10% of the applicants; perhaps other colleges should try to develop MSW programs or other popular programs, e.g., masters in public policy and public service. About Brooklyn College's efforts to certify its School of Business, Dean Ptachik said it was not clear if this would attract students away from private colleges such as Pace but primarily attract students from Baruch. A faculty member said that other non-CUNY colleges have been developing and promoting their masters programs for some time, so CUNY needs to "play catch up" in this area.

Chair Terry Martell said the NYS Senate's and Assembly's budget proposals would add about \$300 million to the Governor's budget proposal, of which about \$21 million would be for CUNY. The Assembly proposal includes \$5 million for SEEK and College Discovery. The Governor has unfortunately dropped his demand that the budget include TAP funding for "Dream Act" (undocumented) students. The proposed additional \$21 million for CUNY does not include money for faculty pay increases, still leaves a \$23 million shortfall, and does not include the funding for mandated increases that were supposed to be part of the CUNY Compact agreement. Martell praised Barbara Bowen and other PSC reps for trying to put pressure on Albany for a good contract settlement, but he is doubtful that they will have much success. As the CUNY Compact agreement ends this year, there will probably be a new CUNY Compact agreement, but this is not necessarily good news, as the last agreement included a tuition raise for students and added funding from the State, but the State never fulfilled its part of the agreement.

(6173) Degree Lists

Professor Langsam presented Degree List 2015/11, which was approved with a vote of 89 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

(6174) Report of Standing Committees

Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum and Degree Requirements: Professor Cohen (Music) presented Curriculum Document 375. Professor Cohen explained that proposed writing-intensive (WI) courses need to be brought to the Writing Across the Curriculum committee for review and approval. Professor Cohen proposed that the WI courses in the document that had not been approved by the WAC committee would be accepted if the WAC committee approved them by Monday; if not approved, they would be withdrawn from the document. His proposal was approved by acclamation. Professor Cohen explained that special topics courses do not need to be voted on by Faculty Council; they only need the committee's approval. If departments want special topics to appear in the May document, they need to be submitted to the committee by Monday. Curriculum Document 375 was approved with a vote of 88 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

Professor Langsam thanked the committee members for their work but took departments to task for not getting their materials in by the deadline, forcing the committee to work over the break and therefore not getting the document to FC members in time for a thorough review.

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Whitlock (CIS) presented Curriculum Document 227. It was approved with a vote of 90 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Provost Tramontano thanked both curriculum committees for their work. He announced that due to Middle States and CUNY, the College needed to identify courses that have not been offered in 5 years and 10 years, and that departments should make the appropriate changes. Professor Langsam explained that the rules are that any course that has not been offered in 10 years is automatically deactivated and to bring it back it must be started as a new course; any course not offered in five years automatically goes into inactive status and gets printed in the bulletin without a description; if you are going to bring the course back, the curriculum committee must be informed. Professor Langsam has asked the Provost's office for a list of all such courses that have not been offered in five and 10 years, and they will be printed in a document and be removed.

Committee on Review of Programs: Emily Molina (Sociology) presented its annual report. The committee was thanked for all its work. Professor Langsam hoped that the Administration would carefully read the report and take note of its recommendations.

(6175) Old Business

Ad Hoc Committee on General Education Reform: Co-Chair Professors Dexter (CIS) and Elaine Brooks (English) presented the resolution on the General Education Curricular Framework.

First motion:

To add: In Model #1

under Arrivals: "Quantitative ***and Mathematical*** Reasoning"

under Departures: "Natural and Behavioral Science and Quantitative ***and Mathematical*** Reasoning"

In Goals and Skills, to change:

under item D: "Quantitative and logical reasoning," to "Quantitative and ***mathematical*** reasoning"

VOTE: 55-28-5; FIRST MOTION PASSED

Second motion:

To insert in the Departures level of both Models, "3 credits of a Laboratory-based science course" (thus also changing the total number of credits at the Departures level from 12 to 15 credits)

VOTE: 43-42-4; SECOND MOTION FAILED

Third motion:

Both Models contain the following provision: "Each department or program may have at most three active general education courses at one time. Courses in English composition, languages other than English, and STGE courses do not count towards this maximum." (Model #2 also contains this provision with the addition of: ", and courses in 'general education pairs' do not count towards this maximum.")

To add, in both Models, after the first sentence: "Students may take no more than 2 courses from one department."

Fourth motion:

To amend this (third) motion to include at the end: "Courses in English composition, languages other than English, and STGE courses do not count towards this maximum."

VOTE: 28-40-19; FOURTH MOTION FAILED

Fifth motion:

To add to this (third) amendment: "no more than 2 courses from one department **and no more than 6 courses in one school**"

To call the question on Fifth motion: 77-7-3

VOTE: 25-52-8; FIFTH MOTION FAILED

To call the question on Third motion: 78-3-6

VOTE: 52-31-4; THIRD MOTION PASSED

Sixth motion:

To change Model #1 under Arrivals from:

"9 cr. Natural and Behavioral Science"

to

"6 cr Natural and Behavioral Science

"3 cr Quantitative and Mathematical Reasoning"

To call the question on Sixth motion: 73-7-1

VOTE: 44-30-6; SIXTH MOTION PASSED

Seventh motion:

To add under Goals and Skills: "**F. Visual communication**"

Eighth motion:

To consolidate B, C and F to read: "B. Oral, **written and visual** communication" which would render the previous motion (seven) moot.

To call the question on Eighth motion: 73-1-3

VOTE: 62-11-6; EIGHTH MOTION PASSED

Ninth motion:

To change the Language exception in Models #1 and #2 to read: "Any student who tests out of the 6 cr language requirement must take 2 additional courses in any of the above 3 areas."

To call the question on Ninth motion: 64-6-2

VOTE: 33-31-8; NINTH MOTION PASSED

Reconsider the vote on the ninth motion: 47-22-2

REVOTE: 33-31-6 (35 needed); NINTH MOTION FAILED

Vote on the Resolution on the General Education Curricular Framework:

If you support Model #1, vote #1; support for Model #2, vote #2, neither, vote #3;

To call the question on the Resolution: 60-2-2

VOTE: 44-8-13; Neither received 55 votes; Model #1 Favored

Tenth motion:

To adopt Model #1 as Brooklyn College's new general education model

Motion to Adjourn

VOTE: 20-42-3 MOTION TO ADJOURN FAILED

VOTE: 50-11-5 TENTH MOTION FAILED

(6176) New Business

There was no new business.

(6177) Adjournment

There being no further business, Professor Langsam declared the meeting adjourned at 5:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Yedidyah Langsam
Chair

Sharona Levy
Acting Secretary