

REVISED
 BROOKLYN COLLEGE
 OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
 FACULTY COUNCIL

October 13, 2015

- (6203) Call to order The second meeting of Faculty Council for the 2015-2016 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by Professor Langsam (CIS).
- (6204) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Eshel (Biology), Ciszowska (Chemistry), Klein (Economics), Cheng (E & ES), Parmar (Film), Kingan (Math), Adams (SEED); School Delegate: Rubinson (Edu.), Bowdoin, Braine, Estey, Fox, Shapiro, Sowers & Vitale (Humanities & Soc Sci.), Magliozzo (Nat. & Bev. Sci.), Grubbs (Visual, Media & Per Arts) were absent (-17) Murrow & Shanley (Edu), Smith (Humanities & Soc Sci), Biais (Nat Behav & Sci) were excused (-4); Administrators: Carey, Conelli, Whatley, Gilbert, Fitzgerald, Hewitt, Gold & Ali were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (6205) Minutes of May 5, 2015 & September 8, 2015 The minutes of May 5, 2015, with changes, were approved unanimously. The minutes of September 8, 2015 were approved unanimously.
- (6206) Steering Committee The election for the Chairperson of Faculty Council took place. Professor Langsam (CIS) was nominated. Being that there were no further nominations, the Secretary was directed to cast a single vote and Professor Langsam was elected.
- The election for the Secretary of Faculty Council took place. Professor Nadell (English) was nominated. Being that there were no further nominations, the Secretary was directed to cast a single vote and Professor Nadell was elected. .
- The election of two at-large members of Faculty Council took place. Professors Gargan (Library) and Pérez y González (PRLS) were nominated. Being that there were no further nominations, the Secretary was directed to cast a single vote and Professors Gargan and Pérez y González were elected. .
- (6207) Communications from the Administration President Gould announced that Brooklyn College had received gifts from three donors in an amount of over \$750,000 in new undergraduate student scholarships. She stated that she hoped this would continue. The donors have been thanked with great appreciation.
- President Gould described the current budget reduction plan. The administration made a revision due to students' desperate needs for courses. There was not a reduction in the adjunct budget. In addition, the adjunct budget will not be reduced in the spring. The President spoke of the budget reduction of \$4 million in the base plus, roughly, an additional \$1 million, which will include only Coutra funds, which are tuition revenues that are banked and held in reserve, a savings of \$1.5 million from faculty and staff positions that will remain unfilled, energy, and enrollment increase funds (which will help replenish Coutra funds, as will robust enrollment in the spring). However, we must continue to be careful. Some replacements in staff will occur when necessary. President Gould mentioned Associate Vice

REVISED

President for Budget and Planning and CFO Gilbert's office, which has lost more than nine staff members and will now search for two replacements. She urged faculty to be nice and understanding Gilbert and his office staff. She informed Faculty Council that Senior VP of Finance and Administration Giovannelli would be out, recovering from surgery for the following few weeks.

President Gould then remarked on the annual report from the Committee on Master Planning, Educational Policy, and Budget. She stated that the committee received detailed department budgets, because it asked for them. This required a lot of new formatting, because of the formatting on reports derived from CUNYFirst. Creating budgets that lay people can understand is another new exercise. This will be done, along with budgets on administrative funds. Once SVP Giovannelli returns and once AVP Gilbert is able, these budgets will be provided. President Gould reported that the five-year decadal reviews for the Schools of Business, Natural and Behavioral Sciences, and Visual, Media and Performing Arts will occur in Spring 2015, under the aegis of Provost Tramontano. She stated that she found the Master Planning request redundant and unnecessarily adversarial, whether intentional or not. She stated also that she hopes for more direct communication with Master Planning and other committees.

(6208) Committee on Committees

Professor Shortell (Sociology) presented the nominations for Faculty Council committees with changes. Professor Ball (Art) and Chua (Psych) were nominated from the floor to the Committees on Master Planning and Research, respectively. The Committee on Committees was advised that Professor Kilroy (Art) is no longer at Brooklyn College and, hence, will not be able to serve on the Committee for Campus Planning.

(6209) Liaison with the University Faculty Senate

Professor Queneau (Business Management), the liaison with the University Faculty Senate, reported on the UFS meeting of September 29, 2015. Vice Chancellor & University CIO Cohen stated that students will be able to download Microsoft Office 365 for free. CUNY is working on the same benefit for faculty members. He also reported that bandwidth speed will increase from 1 GB/second to 100GB/second in June 2016. Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Sapienza explained the budget situation, which has hit the senior colleges harder than the community colleges. He reported CUNY senior colleges received an annual increase in funding of \$77.9 million, \$17.1 million from New York State, and \$60.8 million in tuition (New York City does not provide funds). The outflow, however, was \$118.5 million, with included mandatory costs, such as energy and salary, which had been paid for by New York State. CUNY also covers the TAP gap, which occurs when TAP funds are short of the cost of tuition. This amounts to roughly \$12 million. The Murphy Institute accounts for \$5.5 million. An additional \$12 million is tied to performance improvement plans. The amount of \$38 million is reserved for collective bargaining. This outflow has left a shortfall of \$40.6 million, with a 3% cut at the senior college and a 6% cut at CUNY. The shortfalls are worse at some other senior colleges, including those that have declining enrollment. We will know the monetary cost in January 2016, with the new budget. The political landscape in the New York State legislature is more supportive of the funding of mandatory costs, but the New York State Governor's side is difficult. CUNY is being funded by the state (in per student dollars) less than it was in 2009. The tuition increase that is part of the CUNY Compact will end in 2016. It is unclear what will happen to tuition policy at that point. The direction seems to be another tuition increase, but, given the timing of the contract and the tuition increase, it could look as though the tuition increase would be going to pay faculty and staff salaries.

Professor Queneau reported that the University Sexual Conduct Policy has changed. In addition, there will be a conference on November 13 about trends in education in p US. He also announced that there is a discussion of CUNY faculty members owning the content of

REVISED

their on-line courses.

- (6210) Degree Lists Degree Lists 2016/3 & 4 were approved with a vote of 80 yeas, 0 nays, and 3 abstentions.
- (6211) Report of Standing Committees Ad Hoc Committee on General Education Implementation: Professors Steel (English) and Childers (MLL) presented the Resolution on the Definitions of General Education Categories with changes. A question was raised about the term “2/3 world countries.” Professor Perez y Gonzalez commented that it referred to those countries often labeled “third world” and which accounted for 2/3 of the world. Professor Hass (Psych) moved that the word “principles” replace “physical laws” in the Laboratory-based Natural and Behavioral Sciences category. This amendment was approved unanimously. Professor Schur (Classics) moved that the word “contemporary” be removed from the “Human and Cultural Diversity” category. A discussion followed. Some faculty members referred to the intent of the category to expose students to the diversity of the contemporary world, while others argued that the definition could refer to earlier periods. One faculty pointed out that the “Humanities and Social Sciences” category was capacious enough to include material other than that relating to the contemporary world. Another faculty member pointed out that this category refers to the structural inequality and social processes at work now. Another pointed out that history is essential to understanding contemporary issues. The motion failed with a vote of 25 yeas, 57 nays, and 3 abstentions. A question was raised about the lack of inclusion of the digital humanities in the Humanities and Social Sciences category. Professor Dexter (CIS) moved to include “the use of statistical inference or statistical modeling” in the Quantitative, Computational, and Mathematical Reasoning category. This motion was passed with a vote of 61 yeas, 12 nays, and 5 abstentions. The motion to amend the language in the Human and Cultural Diversity category to “human difference, such as” passed unanimously. The motion to change “original” to “creative” in the Arts category passed unanimously. The resolution passed with a vote of 77 yeas, 3 nays, and 1 abstention. Professors Childers and Steel stated that the next step would be course submission and that chairs would receive information shortly.
- Committee on Master Planning, Budget, & Educational Policy: Professor Bank Munoz (Soc) presented the Manual for Preparing New Academic Programs, which was revised because of an inconsistency between CUNY Central regulations and those of Brooklyn College. The manual passed with changes with a vote of 74 yeas, 2 nays, and 2 abstentions. The Annual Report was accepted. Professor Bank Munoz then presented the resolution to request budget information from the Brooklyn College administration. She stated that Faculty Council is a forum where faculty formalize and record important statements in writing. The resolution was not intended to be antagonistic, as it was intended to inform the incoming Brooklyn College President that Master Planning receives the budget. She stated that President Gould has been very cooperative in the past and current years, but that this was not always the case; hence the desire to formalize the budget request through a resolution. Professor Shortell stated that he found the fact that the administration found the resolution antagonistic disturbing as it formalizes an exchange of information. In addition, Steering has been urging committees for years to make resolutions rather than recommendations. The resolution passed with a vote of 76 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.
- Committee on Academic Foundations & Core Curriculum: Professor Dexter (CIS) presented the annual report with changes. The report was accepted.
- Committee on Course & Standing: Professor Wasser (TVR) presented the annual report. He called attention to the increase in the number of e-permit requests. Provost Tramontano spoke about the e-permits as reflecting the fact that CUNY is a unified system. He stated

REVISED

that the number of courses that are e-permitted is infinitesimal, considering the big picture. Professor Langsam asked about colleges that do not allow students to e-permit at other colleges. The Provost pointed out the fact that e-permits tuition revenue is received by the course-offering college. Professor Wasser pointed out the fact that e-permit petitions are submitted, because Brooklyn College regulations state that students must take their final 18 credits at Brooklyn College.

(6212) Old Business

There was no old business.

(6213) New Business

There was no new business.

(6214) Adjournment

There being no further business, Professor Langsam declared the meeting adjourned at 4:46. pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Yedidyah Langsam
Chair

Martha Nadell
Secretary