

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
FACULTY COUNCIL

February 13, 2018

- (6415) Call to order The fifth meeting of Faculty Council for the 2017-2018 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by Professor Langsam (CIS).
- (6416) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Byam (Africana), Smith (E&ES), Klein (Economics), Andersen (Film), Palmquist (Music), Chopra (Philosophy); School Delegate: Childers, Minter & Vitale (Humanities & Soc Sci.) were absent (-9); Zelcer (Acct) & Balk (H&NS) was excused (-2); Administrators: Jackson, Carey, Moore, Fitzgerald, Hewitt, Gold & Ali were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (6417) Minutes of December 12, 2017 The minutes of December 12, 2017 were approved unanimously.
- (6418) Steering Committee Professor Langsam (CIS) read a minute for Professor Druks (History):
- Herbert Druks joined the faculty of Brooklyn College in 1973. Born in Vienna, Austria in 1937, he and his parents escaped to Northern Italy during the Nazi period. After World War II, he was part of the refugees housed in Upstate New York until his status was changed and he became an American citizen. His personal experiences led to his interest in Holocaust history, American Jewish history, and the history of modern Israel. Herb Druks earned his Ph.D. from NYU in 1964. His publications include "The Uncertain Alliance: The U.S. & Israel from Kennedy to the Peace Process," "The Uncertain Friendship: The U.S. & Israel, from FDR to Kennedy," and "Not in Vain, a Holocaust Documentary." He retired from Brooklyn College in September, 2012. He died on December 17, 2017.
- Professor Langsam announced that nominations for the University Faculty Senate elections will take place on-line from February 26, 2018 through March 2, 2018. The election will take place from March 19, 2018 through March 23, 2018.
- (6419) Communications from the Administration President Anderson spoke about academic momentum – credit accumulation and time-to-graduation – and delivered a brief presentation about the connection between a fifteen-credit load per semester and academic performance (see Appendix A). The President compared the six-year graduation rates and number of students, disaggregated by race and gender, taking fifteen credits on average per semester of Brooklyn College and other CUNY senior colleges. She stated that the

research suggests that students that enroll in fifteen credits per semester earn higher GPAs and have higher and faster credit accumulation, a higher probability of re-enrollment, and a greater likelihood of on-time graduation, regardless of high school preparation, compared to students that enroll in twelve credits per semester. The President also reflected on the financial benefits of a fifteen-credit load, referring to the limits of TAP coverage (four years), out-of-pocket costs, and delayed earnings. The President offered to disseminate primary research material (see Appendix B). A robust discussion with faculty followed.

President Anderson informed Faculty Council about the status of the searches for the positions of Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Provost. Finalists for the former position will deliver presentations on campus. She announced the composition of the search committee and the approval of the job description for the latter position. The search committee will be chaired by Vice President for Enrollment Services O'Reilly and includes Associate Provost for Institutional Planning/Assessment Asbury, Professor Deutch (Library), Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Gilbert, Professor Grasso (Psych), Vice President for Student Affairs Jackson, Professor Jensen-Moulton (Music), Professor Smith (Classics), Executive Chief Diversity Officer Thomas

President Anderson updated Faculty Council on the Strategic Plan, which now includes the first draft of detailed benchmarks, the second draft of purpose, mission, vision, and values, and the third draft of strategic actions. There will be a Town Hall on Thursday, February 15, 2018.

President Anderson then turned to the state of the Brooklyn College infrastructure and listed recent repairs and those problems that remain.

President Anderson announced that the process of allocating new faculty lines has begun, in accordance with the guidelines proposed by CAP.

President Anderson then spoke about the social media other attacks on Professor Rubel (SEED). She raised questions about Brooklyn College's response, including the following: Who should speak for the college on academic freedom? What should the college say when a faculty member is attacked on social media? By what mechanism should the college's response be disseminated? President Anderson spoke specifically about Professor Rubel's situation. She stated that she and her cabinet are assessing what went well and what didn't go well in crisis communication. She stated that she would welcome a group of faculty members and staff to deliberate on a Brooklyn College statement on academic freedom. A series of questions followed these remarks.

(6420) Committee on Committees

Professor Shortell (SOC) presented nominations for the Faculty Council committee assignments for 2017-18. The nominations were approved unanimously.

(6421) Liaison with the University Faculty Senate

Professor Queneau (BUMA) reported on the recent meeting of the University Faculty Senate. David Crook (University Associate Provost for Academic Affairs) and Donna Linderman (University Dean for Student Success Initiatives) presented a Progress Report on CUNY's Strategic Framework Completion (see presentation).

Professor John Verzani, Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee provided an update on Governor Cuomo's proposed executive budget. He listed some of the various proposed budget increases and decreases across CUNY including a 4.4% increase for senior colleges and 100% coverage for fringe benefits, \$118 million for the Excelsior Scholarship Program, and \$4 million for open educational resources (OER). The proposed budget for community colleges is flat. The details of the budget information can be found on the CUNY website.

Professor Martin Burke, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee provided an update on Pathways. He suggested to examine the three-year review of Pathways from the Office of Academic Affairs, which can be found on the CUNY website.

Professor Kathleen Barker, Chair of the Enrollment Management Committee provided a few updates, including the focus of the UFS on zero-cost textbooks, CUNY common application as well as recruitment and enrollment management initiatives.

Chair Conway indicated that search committees are being formed for the recruitment of a new Chancellor and President of Kingsborough Community College. She led a discussion on best practices of shared governance and discussed proposed the governance structure at SPS. Chair Conway indicated that a major issue is the relatively weak role of faculty in the proposed governance structure at SPS.

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| (6422) Degree Lists | Degree Lists 2018/8 & 9 passed with a vote of 85 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions. |
| (6423) Report of Standing Committees | <p>Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum and Degree Requirements: Professor Cohen (Music) presented Curriculum Document 392. It passed with a vote of 82 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.</p> <p>Committee on Honorary Degrees: The committee presented the President's selection for the honorary degree.</p> <p>Committee on General Education: Professor Estey (Political Science) presented the annual report, which was accepted. He spoke to Faculty Council about assessment of General Education.</p> |
| (6424) Old Business | There was no old business. |
| (6425) New Business | There was no new business. |
| (6426) Adjournment | The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm. |

Respectfully submitted,

Yediyah Langsam

Chair

Martha Nadell

Secretary