

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

FACULTY COUNCIL

November 8, 2011

- (5843) Call to order The third meeting of Faculty Council for the 2011-2012 academic year was called to order at 3:29 pm in the Woody Tanger Auditorium by the chair, Professor Pérez y González (PRLS).
- (5844) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Bankoff, Boyer & Perdikaris (Anthro & Archae), Powell & Cheng (E&ES), Manlow (Fin. & Bus.), Daraviras (SEEK), Gould & Shortell (Sociology); Divisional Delegates: Menser & Steel (Humanities), Cherry, Estey & Perdikaris (Social Sci.) were absent (-14); Gonsalves (Humanities), Okome (Social Sci.), Lipke (Biology), Rosenfeld & O'Connor (CBSE), Ciszowska (Chemistry), Gurskis (Film) & Rubinson (SPCL) were excused (-8); Administrators: Faria, Green, Wagner, Hewitt, Gilbert, Joyner, Czirak, Gould, Hopkins, Psarris & Schechter were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (5845) Minutes of October 11, 2011 Professor Nadell (English) presented the minutes of October 11, 2011. The minutes were approved with changes.
- (5846) Steering Committee Professor Pérez y González opened with a moment of silence for the passing of Professor Martin S. James, who served in Brooklyn College's Art Department from 1949 to 1985. He was remembered for his service and for his commitment to Brooklyn College and its students.
- Professor Pérez y González announced that the back door to Tanger would remain open during Faculty Council meetings. In addition, she announced that nominations and elections for the Committee on Committees would take place at the December Faculty Council meeting.
- (5847) Communications from the Administration President Gould was excused. Provost Tramontano delivered communications from the administration. He described the status of Pathways response at Brooklyn College. He stated that Brooklyn College was in the midst of a "two-week review process" for campuses to review the Pathways proposal. He thanked Professor Hadler (Art) for her able representation on the Pathways steering committee, as well as other Brooklyn College faculty members, who are serving on the working committee. He stated that Brooklyn College is in a period of constructing a response that will be sent to CUNY Central by November 15. He stated that he believes that what we have received is not written in stone and that Brooklyn College, along with a number of institutions, are working together to improve the current Pathways proposal. There will be an additional summit at Brooklyn College on Thursday, November 10 to draft the final Brooklyn College response. The Pathways Committee will issue its final report around December 1, 2011. After that date, Brooklyn College will have several months to respond to how its course offerings and learning objectives will fit in with Pathways. At the same time, CUNY will look at the nine majors in which students transfer the most. The majors include Business, Biology, Psychology, Education, Nursing, Criminal Justice, and English. The Pathways majors committees will determine the 3 to 6 most transferable courses by May, 2013. President of the Graduate Center Bill Kelly leads this effort.
- Professor Wasser (TV&R) raised a question about the School of Business accreditation. He asked if there had been a cost-benefit analysis of the AACSB accreditation. The Provost responded that Dean Hopkins (Business) has been working on a document about accreditation. Provost Tramontano stated that Brooklyn College will examine and seek resources, including those other than tax levy funds. Professor Raphan (CIS) asked how much the accreditation would cost.

The Provost responded there was interest in erecting a separate building for the school. In addition, there would be costs related to faculty productivity and salary differentials for academic and professional qualifications for AACSB accreditation. Professor Wills (History) asked if a cost-benefit analysis had been conducted. The Provost responded that it is important for CUNY Central to have AACSB accredited schools and that there has not been that detailed an analysis yet.

Professor Entin (English and American Studies) asked for an update on the resolution calling on the administration to generate sufficient funds to provide at least three-credits of release time for faculty members engaged in research (passed at the September 2011 Faculty Council meeting). The Provost responded that he is looking at the current budget (FY12) but is not planning for this current year to do anything involving teaching load. Brooklyn College, however, is going forward in a number of different directions. For example, the administration is looking at workload credit related to section size. Professor Entin asked if the Brooklyn College Foundation is exploring this. Vice President for Institutional Advancement Sillen responded that the BCF has limited staff, whose portfolios have targeted individual donors. However, a new staff member (Ms. Chu) has joined the BCF and will engage with private foundations (such as Ford and Carnegie Mellon). Ms. Chu will work primarily with the Brooklyn College deans as they identify priorities. The Provost stated that this was good news and that Research Foundation totals are higher this year, compared to last year at this time.

(5848) Committee on Professor Langsam (CIS) presented the following nominees for the 2011-2012 academic year: Professors Khalafin (SEEK) for Course & Standing and Li (ECAE) for Undergraduate Curriculum. Faculty Council accepted the nominees with a vote of 71 yeas, 1 nay, and 3 abstentions.

(5849) Liaison with University Faculty Senate Professor Jacobson (H & N) discussed the most recent meeting of the University Faculty Senate. UFS President Cooper gave an overview of the agenda and pointed out a new item, the resolution on police surveillance passed at Brooklyn College. In addition, President Cooper gave an overview of what she was hearing about the Pathways proposal. Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Sapienza and Senior Vice Chancellor for Budget, Finance, and Financial Policy Shaw gave a budget overview and its implications for this year and next year. The New York State Legislature authorized a tuition increase of \$300/year for five years. Tuition will be \$5130; TAP covers only \$5000. However, students who have full time financial aid will have the additional \$130 covered by the university. The amount of extra coverage provided by CUNY will be prorated, depending on the amount of financial aid students received. An agreement to fund the maintenance of effort at the same support this year as in previous years is in place. The state will not lower its support in the future. In addition, there will be procurement reform; purchases may be made without going to the state for permission to do so. There will still be a budget cut of \$95 million for this fiscal year, which brings the a 4-year total to \$300 million. The cut carries over to next year, so there is concern about the cumulative effects of these cuts. CUNY has set aside some of the tuition increase for small investment plans for full time faculty lines and student support services. The AVC has asked the colleges to turn in financial plans and is now reviewing the FY 2013 plans. The CUNY budget request for FY 2013 goes to the Board of Trustees on November 28, 2011. There will be a focus is on hiring full time faculty and investment in the maintenance of facilities. The AVC then discussed the problems of state and city budget. The next item at the UFS meeting was an overview of the City College process for budget consultation, given by Professor Raj, the faculty senate chair at City College. He stated that CCNY has an open and transparent budget process. He and other members of the CCNY community meet with the president and provost at the beginning of the semester and that all line items are discussed in a 12-step process. The next item on the UFS agenda was a discussion by Professor Barker (MEC) the chair of the status of the faculty committee. She referred to CUNY's recent choice of CLA exam, due to replace the CPE, which was too costly to continue. A task force explored available tests.

Professor Belton (English, BC) is a member of that task force. Despite the claims of the designers and manufacturers of the CLA, there are some concerns and criticism about what the test would do and how well it would measure what it claims to measure. In addition, there were other concerns, as the Chancellery has not released implementation strategies. Professor Barker would like faculty to stay in touch with their testing offices to learn about CUNY's plans. The UFS received the taskforce report and an article from the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, which voiced great concerns about the CLA exam. Professor Pecorino (QCC) gave an overview of his assessment of the CLA exam; he stated that it does not do what it is designed to do. The UFS meeting continued with the passing of the "Resolution on Priorities for the 2012-2013 State Budget Request." Priorities include hiring full time faculty, support for faculty-student advisement and academic counselors, and improvement in the maintenance of buildings. The Brooklyn College and Law School resolutions on police surveillance on campus were delayed until the next UFS meeting.

(5850) Degree Lists Degree lists 2012/11 & 12 were presented by Professor Thurm (CIS) and were approved with a vote of 72 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.

(5851) Report of Standing Committees Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Professor Tenenbaum (CIS) presented Curriculum Document 349. The document was approved with changes with a vote of 72 yeas, 2 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Course & Standing: Professor Cohen (Music) presented the annual report. Pérez y González thanked Professor Cohen and the members of the committee for their weekly commitment to these efforts.

Core Curriculum and Academic Foundations: Professors Moore (Philosophy) and Brooks (English) presented the "Response to CUNY Pathways to Degree Completion Report." The response examined the framework of the Pathways proposal and presented a joint resolution from the two committees. The resolution stated a strong preference on the part of Brooklyn College for the "secondary motion to structure the common core." The resolution also called for a clarification of the language in the "Flexible Common Core Structure" and for a change in the language of the name of category B to "Mathematical, Computational, and Quantitative Reasoning." The resolution also recommended that Brooklyn College research national trends in science and foreign language requirements and deplored the absence of a foreign language requirement. Professor Cunningham (Africana Studies) asked for the inclusion of a reference to interdisciplinary modes of inquiry in the revision of the language of the "Flexible Common Core Credits." Professor Moore stated that the resolution would add the reference to interdisciplinary study, following what was presented in the Pathways document. Professor Wills suggested that all courses be four credits and proposed the following to the resolution: "Be It Resolved that Faculty Council recommends that the Pathways taskforce consider four credit courses across the general education requirements." After discussion, the motion failed with a vote of 13 yeas, 56 nays, and 1 abstention. After continued discussion, the Core Curriculum and Academic Foundations resolution passed with a vote of 62 yeas, 10 nays, and 0 abstentions.

(5852) Old Business There was no old business.

(5853) New Business There was no new business.

(5854) 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 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

María Pérez y González,
Chair

Martha Nadell,
Secretary