

**Faculty Senate Plenary Meeting
Minutes of February 6, 2014**

MINUTES

Senators Attending: E. Axelrod (Law), C. Bellamy (Soc/Anth), M. Carew (Eco/Fin), A. Croker (S/CIS), B. Ferns (S/CIS), R. Freedman (ZSB), M. Goodman (COMM), A. Grein (MKT), K. Guest (Soc/Anth), C. Hessel (Eco/Fin), R. Jain (S/CIS), D. Jones (PolSci), G. Jurkevich (ModLang), A. Levitus (CNLSNG/PSY), T. Main (SPA), T. Martell (Eco/Fin), J. O'Keefe Bazzoni (COMM), R. Ormsby (LIB), M. Ozbilgin (ACC), A. Pearlman (PSY), L. Rath (LIB), M. Seltzer (SPA), P. Sethi (MGT), M. Stark (SPA), J. Weiser (Law), S. Wine (S/CIS), X. Yin (MGT), R. Yue (S/CIS)

Senators Absent: K. Behar (FPA), C. Christoforatu (ENG), S. Dishart (COMM), W. Finke (ModLang), K. Frank (ENG), C. Gengler (MKT), S. Johnson (PSY), S. Korenman (SPA), C. Kulatilleke (NatSci), W. McClellan (ENG), B. Murphy (HIS), G. Petersen (Soc/Anth), A. Vora (Eco/Fin), S. Wong (MTH)

The meeting was convened at 1:01 p.m. in VC 14-250 by Prof. Terry Martell, Chair of the Faculty Senate.

I. Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved by assent.

II. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of December 5, 2013 were approved by assent

III. Report from the Chair (Prof. Terry Martell)

Terry welcomed the faculty back for the start of the spring 2014 semester.

Sustainability: Terry noted that the attempt at providing more sustainable lunches resulted in a move to another vendor; the new vendor provided more limited options and no vegetarian sandwiches.

New Chancellor: James Milliken, the President of the University of Nebraska system, has been selected as the seventh chancellor of CUNY. Dr. Milliken went to law school in NYC, and he has been the president—essentially the chancellor—of Nebraska for the past ten years. He has extensive external relations in fund-raising, government relations, and involvement with national education organizations at the board level. Terry served on the search committee, and he said Dr. Milliken's selection was best possible result that we could have hoped for CUNY.

Budget Update: In general, there is good news with the Governor's proposed budget.

- There is a 4.7% (\$102.2M) increase in the funding for the senior colleges; this increase includes \$42.9M in mandatory personnel increases such as fringe benefits.
 - This figure does not cover other mandatory costs such as salary step increases or energy costs.
- Also, part of the increase is a \$60.8M revenue appropriation because of increased tuitions;
 - This new funding model is new because CUNY can keep the funds from the increased tuitions.
 - From the \$60.8M, CUNY will have to set aside \$12.2M to cover incremental TAP for qualifying students.
- That leaves about \$48M in net new budget funds;
 - If past patterns are repeated, Baruch will see about \$4M of that money.
- The governor eliminated a \$550K funding for SEEK, but that may be made up with legislature support. There are no new capital funds.
- There is \$258M in the budget for 'critical maintenance', and Baruch may get a piece of that.
- The proposed budget does not fund the **2020 Challenge Grant** this year, but is looking to provide more money next year. The 2020 Challenge funds are capital funds, not operating expenses, so these funds can roll over, so we do not have to spend the money by April 1.
- The 2015 Executive budget calls for \$2.255B in funding for the senior colleges;
 - Of that, state and city aid is \$1.23B, or 55% of CUNY's budget.

- That may be a downward estimate; the actual number may be actually more than 55%, but that will be net the TAP support.
- The 55% government support figure represents a fairly generous number nationwide.

Pathways: Interim Chancellor William Kelly sent a letter to the CUNY colleges and deans on February 3, 2014, to plan on the Board of Trustees-mandated annual Pathways review. Because this is the first year for Pathways, there is insufficient data for a review this year, and the data will be rolled forward to next year's review. Chancellor Kelly also has formed a small advisory group of five people to look at ways that Pathways can be adjusted without changing the original BoT resolution. As a result of that examination:

- Starting in Fall 2014, the local colleges will be able to decide how many hours to assign to a three credit course;
- Programs can apply for a waiver from Pathways if they are constrained by high credits / external accreditation groups. The waiver option had existed previously, but the process for a waiver was almost impossible to accomplish; the new process will be more transparent and accommodating;
- Faculty members serving on the CUNY-wide Common Core Course Review Committee (CCCRC) will be chosen through college governance processes, beginning with those identified to serve during the 2014-2015 academic year. This puts some of the curricular issues of Pathways back in the hands of the faculty.

Terry noted that there are still some issues that need to be addressed, such as the ability for local colleges to require minors. He noted that Interim Chancellor Kelly had brought about several positive changes to the culture and the communications at CUNY Central, and changes to the Pathways program in a short time, and he hoped that the new chancellor will be amenable to additional change.

Separately, the PSC had filed a request for arbitration based on the principle that Pathways had violated the PSC contract. The arbitrator has accepted that the request had merit and should be arbitrated. This decision may have the unintended consequence that makes any curricular change open to arbitration.

Terry thanked Ed Adams (Senior Registrar) for coming to the Senate to present the February graduates for approval. Terry pointed out that the faculty teach, they grades, and they determine the degree requirements, and it is only appropriate that we take the final step in approving the graduates.

IV. Report from the President (M. Wallerstein)

The President discussed the death of freshman Michael Deng in December. The president noted that his death was a result of an unauthorized rush event and hazing by the Pi Delta Psi fraternity in the Poconos in Pennsylvania. During the event Mr. Deng fell and hit his head but his companions did not report his injury immediately; Mr. Deng later died as a result of his injury. The irony is that Baruch at the time was the only senior CUNY college that has a clear anti-hazing policy for student clubs and fraternities. There were about 20-25 Baruch students present and the area police are still investigating the incident. It is a tragedy for Mr. Deng and his family, as well as the other students involved. The college is pursuing its own academic judicial processes against the other students present.

Administrative Changes:

- Dr. Arthur Downing has been promoted to *Vice President for Information Services* and *Dean of the Library*. VP Downing will continue his leadership of the award-winning William and Anita Newman Library and the BCTC, and he will also now oversee the work of the Office of Institutional Research and Program Assessment;
- Dr. Ben Corpus has been promoted to *Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Academic Initiatives*. All enrollment and retention-related functions, including: Admissions and

Recruitment, Financial Aid, Registrar, Academic Advising, Testing and Evaluation, Housing administration, International Student Services, and SEEK will continue to be overseen by VP Corpus

- Student Affairs will now be a separate function including Student Life, the Starr Career Development Center, Athletics and Recreation, Counseling, Health and Wellness, Services for Students with Disabilities, Residence Life, and the Early Learning Center. It will be led by an *Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students*. There will be a national search to fill this position, and Sharon Ricks has agreed to take on these duties on an interim basis;
- Richard Orbe-Austin has agreed to server as the interim Chief Diversity Officer.

Battle of Lexington: Both the Men's and Women's basketball teams will be playing tonight. President Wallerstein encouraged faculty to attend.

V. Reports from the Planning & Finance Committee (Michael Goodman, COMM)

Michael Goodman, vice-chair Senate's Planning & Finance Committee, reported that the committee is continuing to look at the new fees that are being levied on the various revenue-generating centers and programs. Also, the committee is following up on expressed faculty concern about the current state of campus maintenance; Michael asked that faculty fill in the maintenance request form¹ when they find problems.

VI. Report from The Provost (D. Christy, Provost)

New Chief-of-Staff: The provost introduced Dr. Linda Lemiesz, who will be the new chief-of-staff of the Provost's Office. Dr. Lemiesz comes to Baruch from Cooper Union, where she spent 23 years serving as the Dean of Student Services and head of the Office of Student Services. Dr. Lemiesz will be working with the Academic Affairs budget and providing project leadership.

Reorganization: The Provost detailed what departments will start reporting to his office:

- Dean of Students Office including Judicial Affairs and the Crisis Intervention Team
- Counseling Center
- Office of Services for Students with Disabilities
- Athletics
- Student Life including student organizations, Residence Life, and Greek Life
- Health Services
- Starr Career Development Center
- Early Learning Center

The Provost requested that suggestions and comments about these offices now be sent to him.

VII. Task for on Institutional Effectiveness (Mary Gorman, Chief-of-Staff)

Mary noted that Dean Birdsell had introduced the Institutional Effectiveness Initiative to the Faculty Senate in the spring of 2013. The overarching goal is to improve the human infrastructure of the college to facilitate it meeting its strategic plan. The first major thrust had been more professional training for all full-time non-faculty employees at the college, from the President to the operational staff. Over 70% have gone through some of the trainings and over 2/3s have gone through all three training modules:

- Service Excellence
- Change Management
- Business Intelligence

¹ The maintenance report form can be found at <http://archibus.baruch.local/request/index.cfm> but it must be filled on-campus or through Baruch's VPN.

These trainings occur at three levels:

- Senior Staff
- Key Managers
- General Staff

There are new staff and some pockets of staff who still need to attend the trainings. CAPS has been responsive to staff feedback, and the training has been enhanced. The trainings also allow staff from different parts of the college to meet each other.

One successful measure has been the ‘cross-border teams’, in which staff that have to work on related issues get out of their ‘silos’ and talk with their counterparts in different areas of the college. Some of the cross-border teams are organized around broad issues; for example, VP Kathy Cobb chairs a team of business managers from around the college. Other teams have a more specific focus, such as:

- Graduate billing
- Student Advising
- Staff Morale
- Staff Education and Training
- Facilities
- Globalization
- Registration Implementation
- Managing Staff

Recent Successes:

- The new Space Reservation Policy with matching technology
 - All available room resources are now visible through a single system and interface;
 - This technology will facilitate analysis of how room resources are used;
- Office of Marketing & Communications is offering Lunch-and-Learn seminars on how to use social media for communicating inside and outside the college community.

Q&A: Alan Pearlman (Psych) said that the Department of Psychology has lost its conference room to a faculty research lab. He is concerned about trying to procure an alternate space for the department’s meeting needs. Mary replied that the reservation system does not work down to the level of classrooms and departmental offices and conference rooms and classrooms; the rooms in this reservation system are mostly the larger meeting/conference rooms. Some rooms have priority users (i.e. SPA has the priority use of Room 301 in the Administrative Building), but once the priority user puts in the recommendations, other segments of the college community can make reservations.

VIII. CUNYFirst (K. Cobb, VP of Administration and Finance)

VP Kathy Cobb said that the training process is in development. The BARFIT (Bursar, Admissions, Registrar, Financial Aid and Information Technology) team has asked that each department appoint a CUNYFirst ‘ambassador’ who will know how to initially log onto the system and understand some of the basics. There is also a faculty and academic administrative staff training group that includes full-time and adjunct faculty; this group is chaired by Angelina Delgado SPA). VP Cobb said that the college is developing ‘just-in-time’ training materials for faculty. The faculty will be doing some tasks soon:

- Grading for the Spring semester;
- Roster certification

VP Cobb noted the other campuses that have gone to CUNYFirst report that faculty want different levels of training—some need only brief tutorials and videos, others need more in-depth training opportunities.

VP Cobb had gone through the CUNYFirst implementation at Queens, and she reported that it is going more smoothly at Baruch because the system has been improved, and Baruch is utilizing many of the successful training materials from earlier implementation waves.

There is a ‘train the trainer’ initiative, in which one person from each department goes to intensive training. There is a second initiative in which a different person from each office goes through ‘user acceptance training’.

E-Sims and BOSS are going dark around March 20. The go-live date for CUNYFirst will be around April 9th. Hence, there will be a gap in availability of information during that time.

President Wallerstein noted that many people are putting in extraordinary hours and effort in this process—he singled out Kathy Cobb and Christian Keck for their efforts. Warren Schultz (Communications & Marketing) noted that there is a reference card that has a URL to the training materials.

IX. February Graduates (E. Adams, Senior Registrar)

Ed Adams, the Senior Registrar for Baruch, reported the number of candidates for graduation from each school at Baruch in February:

- School of Public Affairs: 129 students
- Weissman School of Arts and Sciences: 308 student
- Zicklin School of Business: 1,017

A motion to approve the candidates’ graduation was moved and seconded, and passed unanimously.

X. Announcements:

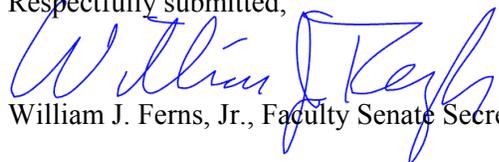
Interim Chancellor Kelly is developing a five-session training program for faculty to learn aspects of administrative work such as budget and governance.

XI. Old Business: None

XII. New Business: None

Meeting Adjourned at 1:56 pm

Respectfully submitted,


William J. Ferns, Jr., Faculty Senate Secretary