

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
FACULTY COUNCIL
May 10, 2022

Minutes of April 5, 2022

- (6799) Call to order The seventh meeting of Faculty Council for the 2021-22 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm by Professor Shortell (SOCY) via Zoom.
- (6800) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Wilson (BIOL); Delegates: Suarez (NBS) were absent (-2); Xie (ACCT) & Trivedi (PHIL) were excused (2); Administrators: Lewis, Tolia, Gilbert, McGinnis, Coombs were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (6801) Minutes of March 15, 2022 The minutes of March 15, 2022 were approved with a vote of 92 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.
- (6802) Steering Committee The election for alternates for the University Faculty Senate will take place online. A discussion about the “Resolution on Membership in Faculty Council” took place. A discussion of the following issues took place: the eligibility of adjunct faculty members to serve on Faculty Council and the possibility of their serving, the status of the student government liaison (undergraduate or graduate), the balance of governance at Brooklyn College, the definition of programs, and the number of program and department representatives from programs. The resolution to amend the resolution to “all directors of *interdisciplinary* programs in academic areas” passed with a vote of 80 yeas, 4 nays, and 14 abstentions. A discussion of the following issues ensued: vote vs. voice, the appointment of program directors, the governance status of directors of intradepartmental and interdepartmental programs and a review of this status, the locus of authority of chairs and directors, and the process of changing membership through Policy Council. The resolution to increase the number of interdisciplinary program directors to 15 failed with a vote of 38 yeas, 26 nays, and 32 abstentions. The motion to postpone the resolution passed with a vote of 85 yeas, 8 nays, and 5 abstentions.

(6803)
Communications
from the
Administration

President Anderson reported that the New York State budget is late. She spoke about faculty hiring, including cluster hiring, strengthening offers, a transparent multi-year plan for hiring, and departmental affirmative action plans. She reported that Provost Lopes and the Committee on Master Planning, Educational Policy, and Budget will co-host a forum about faculty hiring. She spoke about fear among Brooklyn College community members about safety, especially due to recent hate crimes directed against Asian American women and announced that the Women's Center will offer two self-defense classes, that Public Safety provides an escort service to and from campus, and that conversations about coordinating commutes for the Brooklyn College community are taking place. President Anderson provided information about mental health resources for faculty and staff, including CUNY's hotline (800-833-8707) and the Employee Assistance Plan. She reported on the recent presentation at CAP about how to be an ally to immigrant and undocumented students and announced ISSO's UndocuAlly training on April 27, 2022. She announced the recipient of the distinguished alumni award, Leonard Tow '50.

Provost Lopes provided Faculty Council with an update and information about faculty lines and searches, including the following: the joint forum, with the Committee on Master Planning, Educational Policy, and Budget; short-term and long-term planning for lines; the fact that departments with searches that did not fill this year can keep their lines, affirmative action plans, the status of current searches, preparation for next year's possible searches, the process for determining the allocation of lines, and cluster hires. She then spoke then about faculty development opportunities related to the return to in-person teaching and the challenges that students are facing due to the return to in-person classes.

Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management O'Reilly provided an update for the Strategic Enrollment Management process. Chief Diversity Officer Brown updated Faculty Council about the outside consultant. Chief Legal and Labor Relations Officer Thomas reminded members about New York State Governor Hochul has extended the state disaster emergency that permitted open meetings to be held remotely only until April 15.

A discussion ensued about the following: data about demographics of the student body and the relationship to hiring, clarification of the process and timing for faculty searches, cluster hiring, the process of determining when a search has failed, competitive start-up packages and recruitment, the challenge of the bureaucracy for faculty hiring, transparency about

administrative hiring, understaffing at the staff level, and campus meetings subject to the Open Meetings Law.

(6804)
University
Faculty Senate
Liaison

The report was postponed.

(6805) Degree
List

Degree List 2022/10 was approved with a vote of 85 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

(6806) Reports
of Standing
Committees

Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Curriculum Document 419 with changes was approved with a vote of 84 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Curriculum Document 268 was approved with a vote of 82 yeas, 0 nays, and 2 abstentions.

Committee on Interdisciplinary Programs: The annual report was accepted and the Resolution on Asserting that Interdisciplinary Programs of Brooklyn College Need Support and Resources” passed with a vote of 67 yeas, 6 nays, and 7 abstentions.

(6807) Old
Business

There was no old business.

(6808) New
Business

A question was raised about the return to in-person meetings and department elections. Professor Wills (HIST)x thanked members of the CUNY Rising Alliance, the PSC-CUNY, a New Deal for CUNY, elected officials, and all students, staff, faculty, and others, who spoke out for and supported the New York State budget.

(6809)
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Shortell
Chair

Martha Nadell
Secretary