

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
FACULTY COUNCIL
May 9, 2023

Minutes of March 28, 2023

- (6889) Call to order The sixth meeting of Faculty Council for the 2022-23 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm by Professor Shortell (SOCY).
- The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Qi (BIOL), Rifkin (BUSN), Thibodeau (CLAS), Goldberg (ECON), MacDonald (FILM), Maumus (PHIL), Giovambattista (PHYS), Hardin (PSCY), Parmar (SEED); Delegates: Bassell (BUSN), Georgas (HUMA), Contel (NBS), Jensen-Moulton & Grubbs (VMPA) were absent (-14); Levy (CASD), Weiss (NBS), Rodman (VMPA) were excused (3); Administrators Bedford, Cumming, Eaton, Hu, McGinnis, O'Reilly, Scharron del Rio were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (6890) Roll call
- (6891) Minutes of February 7, 2023 and March 7, 2023 The minutes of February 7, 2023 and March 7, 2023 were approved unanimously.
- (6892) Steering Committee Professor Shortell urged faculty to complete the COACHE survey. Professor Kobrak (CHEM), Preston (MATH), Sosa (TREM), and Tesman (THEA) were nominated for the slate of the Brooklyn College Association Board. The President accepted the slate. The Resolution on Membership in Faculty Council for Academic Staff Liaison was passed with a vote of 75 yeas, 8 nays, and 2 abstentions.
- (6893) Communications President Anderson thanked all members of Faculty Council for their hard work during this time of the semester. She reported on the Admitted Students Day and results of the CUNY Reconnect

from the
Administration

program. She described the results of our survey about why students leave the College, conducted by Associate Provost Cummings (financial reasons, bureaucratic non-responsiveness, and burn-out), and offered strategies to address them (enhancing our completion grants, fostering a student-centered campus, and providing students with referrals to our mental health counseling program). The President provided an update on part-time TAP, the savings plan developed by the Fiscal Review Advisory Committee, the Vacancy Review Board, the New York State budget and its potential impact on CUNY, her enhanced lobbying efforts this year, and the possibility of a change in the school structure of Brooklyn College. A conversation followed, during which a number of faculty members read a statement, alleging that the College gave over half of its \$56 million in Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds to CUNY Central, and calling for an end to budget cuts, the approval all existing job searches, a reduction in class size, and a pause on possible restructuring of the schools. The President clarified that none of the College's emergency relief funds went to CUNY Central. The conversation then focused on the Vacancy Review Board, budget cuts, class size, the impact of the budget on the mission of Brooklyn College, the relationship between budget cuts and efforts to increase enrollment and retention rates, the possibility of using CUTRA funds or furloughs for those on the Executive Compensation Plan, and efforts to maximize support for students and enhancing funding.

(6894) Liaison
with the
University
Faculty Senate

Professor Cohen (MUSC) provided an update about the most recent University Faculty Senate meeting, at which Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer Hector Batista was a guest. The meeting focused on the Vacancy Review Board, capital project funding, food service at the Grad Center, and CUNY's seamless transfer initiative.

(6895) Degree
List

Degree List 2023/10 was approved with a vote of 85 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.

(6896) Reports
of Standing
Committees

Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Curriculum Document 425 with changes was approved with a vote of 85 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Curriculum Document 275 was approved with a vote of 81 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.

Committee on Campus Planning: The annual report was submitted and accepted.

Committee on Master Planning and Steering: Professor Sengupta (HIST) led a conversation about the possible change of the school structure at Brooklyn College. The conversation addressed the following: the search for new deans, the concerns about the impact of restructuring on interdisciplinary programs and smaller departments, the possibilities of intellectual and pedagogical collaboration, the impact on general education, financial savings, alternative models a school of arts and sciences, the roles and responsibilities of deans, and the pace of reorganization.

(6897) Old
Business

There was no old business.

(6887) New
Business

There was no new business.

(6888)
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Shortell
Chair

Martha Nadell
Secretary