



Borough of Manhattan Community College
The City University of New York
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

Minutes
October 16th, 2019
Room N499H

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
- III. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:
 - a. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
 - i. **Course Revision:** ENG 101
Presenters: Caroline Pari-Pfisterer, Cynthia Christina Lam, Keridiana Chez, Tracy Bealer, Angela Florscheutz
Description: This revision changes the course pre-requisites to comply with the new CUNY admissions policies and changes to multiple measures of reading and writing proficiency for placement into courses.
Vote: APPROVED. Motion to approve the course revision passed 14-0-0 pending required revisions.
 - ii. **Course Revision:** ENG 121
Presenters: Caroline Pari-Pfisterer, Cynthia Christina Lam, Keridiana Chez, Tracy Bealer, Angela Florscheutz
Description: This revision changes the course pre-requisites to comply with the new CUNY admissions policies and changes to multiple measures of reading and writing proficiency for placement into courses.
Vote: APPROVED. Motion to approve the course revision passed 14-0-0 pending required revisions.
 - iii. **Curriculum Revision:** Honors Program
Presenter: Joel Barker
Description: This revision changes the number of courses required to graduate as an Honors Program Scholar from 5 courses to 4 courses.
Vote: APPROVED. Motion to approve the revision to the Honors Program passed 14-0-0
 - b. FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: D. Gambs
 - i. Call for papers: Decolonizing Higher Education
 - ii. Minutes from September 4th 2019 were approved

- iii. Members introduced themselves and welcomed Siddharth Ramakrishnan.
 - iv. The Chair noted that the task of Secretary will be rotated among members.
 - v. The list of volunteers for liaison assignments was finalized:
 - 1. Assigned **Liaisons** updated: CETLS Advisory Board (Miguel Castro), Faculty Publication Grant (Abel Navarro), WAC (Monica Foust), Faculty Mentoring Program (Yolanda Medina), Faculty Development Grant Co-coordinator (Cara Kronen), Teaching Academy (Yolanda Medina), Distinguished Teaching Award (Warren Benfield), and Adjunct Professional Development (funding was cut and no one was assigned to this activity).
 - vi. Faculty Development Day updates were discussed, and the process and deadlines outlined.
 - vii. Faculty Development Grant (FDG) coordinators and the grant process were discussed.
 - viii. Possible speakers, date and location for the Joe Doctor Colloquium were discussed.
 - ix. The committee heard a report from CETLS liaison.
 - x. There was a brief report on CETLS Faculty Development Fair.
- c. INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE: A. Colapinto
- i. Approved the Guidelines for Online Observation that was prepared by the committee last semester and agreed to disperse them to the chairs of departments to either implement or to provide feedback to the committee.
 - ii. Agreed to expand committee charge to include Recommendation for Observation Criteria for E-Learning Courses.
 - iii. Members present agreed to look at Student Evaluation models at other institutions and collect data from administrators and chairs at the respective institutions regarding the differences between their process and our current practice. Maureen: will you bring in a focus group of students. Andres – yes. Will team up with Maureen.
 - iv. College Council secretary: do we need to vote on whether Catarina Mata can also serve on AS standing committee. She can serve as a volunteer.
- d. ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE: C. Wiseman
- i. No actionable items.
 - ii. Still working to get entire appeal process online. Subcommittee to work with IT on that.
- e. COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS: M. Matarese
- i. Update on *Kismet, Ms. Marvel* event. Event for Islamophobia has been moved to November 4th. Room N451, 12:30 – 2. Flyers this week. Sana Amanat will not be coming. Instead, she has a TED talk – will start with that. Snacks to be provided to students.
 - ii. Emergency menstrual supplies and gender-neutral bathrooms in Fiterman: Still don't have all gender access restrooms there. Will follow-up with Jorge Yafar.
 - iii. Academic Probation: Discussed the ramifications of academic probation on federal aid for students.
- f. ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE. R. Sharp

- i. Focusing on Open House: Benjamin Powell, conversation with former committee members; the committee will contact VP Wallesser and admissions personnel to ensure they will continue to be used at upcoming open houses.
- ii. Benjamin Powell will invite VP Wallesser and admissions personnel to attend the next committee meeting and collaborate on the committee's agenda for 2019-20.
- iii. Committee role in Designing for Success: Benjamin Powell will represent the admissions committee in the "Redesign the New Student Enrollment Experience" planning group.
- iv. Ken recommendation: admissions committee needs to look at and be abreast with remedial reform because students will be highly impacted by this policy.

g. ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE (H. Glaser)

- i. Resolution (below)
- ii. Discussed two academic freedom issues brought to the committee. Hollis will have further discussion with involved parties.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

- a. Will not take position on issues but will facilitate discussion. Will say a few words on the importance of faculty. Will recommend that faculty have a responsibility to create our own structure – cannot only have DfS/ Strategic plan.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Interim President Wilks:

- i. Strategic planning (DfS) – college-wide forum all week from Friday. IP Wilks is has a scheduled meeting with some people who have concerns with the process.
- ii. Posted a search for a new VP of Advancement (fund raising).
- iii. Cynthia – a DfS subcommittee is Sustainability. There is apparently no record of previous work done by this committee. IP Wilks will find the information.
- iv. Ken – there is a general lack of understanding of the new remedial guidelines. Suggests that Acting Provost Wong can give some information at Senate. Also, requests that Dean Schultz present a few statistics to show how enrollment in remedial classes is going down because of the changes. This will be done in College Council.
- v. Deborah: any update on any cabinet searches? IP Wilks – Jorge Yafar and Elena Samuels are covering VP Anderson's position; Gloria Chao and Meryll Canard (new legal council) are covering VP Diaz's position. Presidential search: CUNY has 8 presidencies: current searches are for Barruch, the Graduate center, and Queens college; the next search will be BMCC, Queensborough and La Guardia (January at the easiest); the final stage will be Lehman and York.
- vi. Andres: Instruction committee - who knows what student evaluations would look like? IP Wilks – need to discuss with chairs; bring proposals to IP and acting provost.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- a. M. Matarese: Resolution (below): will bring from the floor.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Academic Freedom Committee Resolution

Whereas, the AAUP's document "On the Relationship of Faculty Governance to Academic Freedom" states: "the faculty's voice should be authoritative across the entire range of decision making that bears, whether directly or indirectly, on its responsibilities."

Whereas the same document further states that "academic freedom of faculty members includes the freedom to express their views... on matters having to do with their institution and its policies...."

Whereas in order for faculty to express their views, they must be informed about those policies.

Whereas a significant portion if not the entirety of BMCC's institutional policies are established in the Cabinet meetings;

Whereas, decisions purportedly related to budgetary constraints, have been made without consultation with faculty and outside of college governance (i.e. class size cap raised from 35 to 37)...

Whereas the AAUP's central document on shared governance (The Statement of Government of Colleges and Universities) states that "Agencies for faculty participation in the government of the college or the university should be established at each level where faculty responsibility is present."

Whereas the faculty of the university are represented on the Board of Trustees by the University Faculty Senate president as a non-voting member;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Academic Senate Chair shall be a non-voting member of the BMCC Cabinet in order to fully represent and inform the faculty on relevant decisions.

Resolution Academic Senate

Given that Designing for Success impacts faculty, coursework, curricula, and student learning, which places it in the purview of faculty governance,

Given that the faculty (many without tenure) on the Designing for Success steering committees have felt that their input and critique have not been adequately addressed/considered,

Given that Designing for Success has an impact on faculty workload and is therefore also the purview of the Union,

Be it resolved that a small joint Academic Senate and PSC ad hoc committee be created to develop and implement a brief, anonymous assessment of the experiences of all Designing for Success committee members last year.

Be it further resolved that the results will be shared with the senate body and will inform the newly populated Designing for Success committees as they go forward in this new academic year.