

MINUTES
of the
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
of

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Tuesday, March 6, 1973

Kingsbridge Center Lounge

Vol. 72-73, No. 15

2:25 P. M.

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Arlene Levey.
2. The Minutes. The minutes of February 27, 1973 were approved with the correction of Music 71 replacing Music 40 on Page 51, Item 8.
3. Attendance. The following people were in attendance:
 - a. Members - M. Abruzzo (student), R. Bowman, D. Bullard, B. Ettinger, R. Gosselin, J. Hamell, H. Harris, S. Heinemann, G. Hobbs, H. Jick, M. Kalin, M. Kanuck, A. Levey, N. McLaughlin, M. Pollack, J. Riley, M. Steuerman, J. Sweeney, E. Weiss.
 - b. Alternates - A. Baskind, K. Kelly, J. Ryan.
 - c. Guests - T. Benenson, D. Davidson, R. Kor, R. Lewis, P. Read.
4. Congratulations. The Committee congratulated Professor E. Weiss on the marriage of his daughter and thanked him for sharing some of the refreshments with us.
5. Announcements. Dean D. Bullard reported that although Dean James McGrath had put the items sent on the Board Agenda, he had minor reservations such as: (a) Is Cooperative Work Experience better seen as an elective experience? (b) He wondered what student interests and student demands there were in the English elective course proposals and what numerical assessment had been made before presenting them for approval.
6. Department of Music and Art. Class Piano for Beginners. The idea that education for leisure be included in the purpose of the course was accepted. Also the catalog description will include a statement that pianos are available for practice. Action is possible at the next meeting.
7. Subcommittee on Course Evaluation. The departments' reactions to the preliminary recommendations of the Subcommittee on Course Evaluation were related as follows: Only the Biology Department's Curriculum Committee members had an opportunity to react to the proposal, and they were opposed. They felt the work should be done in the department and sent to the administration for overview. They were concerned about the amount of clerical work. Business and Commerce approved the basic concepts of the report. They felt that technical courses should be kept on the books and be brought back if market conditions change without going through the travail of a new course proposal. Chemistry, like

Health and Physical Education, saw the dual departmental and administrative aspects of evaluation. They objected to the submitting of an annual report. According to the representative, the report was not discussed by the Department of Electrical and Mechanical Technology. The English faculty felt that the evaluation work should be done by someone other than the department concerned or this would be a self-serving activity. Health and Physical Education's favorable response stipulates expansion of the Subcommittee's report to include student input in the evaluations and transferability facts. The computer would be utilized in the gathering of data. The History Department saw dangers in the proposal as time brings about changes in course requests. Some courses are more popular at one time than at another time. They felt that courses and curricula should not be eliminated, for there would be problems later if the Board decided not to reinstate them. It is incumbent on each department to withdraw courses for which there is no response. Also this evaluation idea represents too much clerical work. The Library took no official position although they sense there is too much clerical work. A couple of the Mathematics Department members thought the recommendations were good, but the majority felt it would be work done and not used. The department members are continually undergoing evaluation of their own courses. Modern Languages had no objections in principle but expressed concern about the paper work. They felt this was not a good time to be eliminating courses. Music and Art prided themselves on being the first department opposed to the proposal as established in their resolution May 1, 1972. Their sentiments remain unchanged. Nursing is in favor of evaluating elective courses and supported the report. Physics agrees with Music and Art. There is enough self-discipline within each department to review the courses now in existence. Secretarial Studies disapproved and felt that a College-wide committee with departmental representation was desirable. The Social Sciences faculty has not reacted to the proposal but the representative recalled no objection when the report was originally presented. Special Educational Services members were generally in favor. The Speech Department noted that much of the evaluation process should be done by the administration. Student Personnel is presently evaluating its SPD offering and feels there should be a College-wide committee on evaluation. The discussion time was extended, and a motion to waive the three-meeting period requirement so that a vote could be taken on these recommendations was defeated. Yes - 7, No - 11, Abstentions - 2.

After all the reports were in, Committee members tried to isolate some of the ideas. Among them were the request for a specific charge to the Subcommittee, the need to decide whether the Curriculum Committee would continue only dealing with each item as presented or with the overall curricular programs of the College, the explanation of how and by whom information gathered would be used, the lack of authority of the Subcommittee, or the full Committee for that matter, to legislate departmental curricular actions, and the rationale for the existence of the Subcommittee. We were reminded that a course or curriculum is not eliminated, simply because it is not being offered.

8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 P. M.