

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
of the City University of New York

COLLEGE SENATE

Minutes of the Meeting, April 2, 1992 12:45 PM, BH226

H. Andima, H. Balter, R. Bass, V. Bonelli, M. Brady, D. Cancienne, N. Canton, C. Daley, S. Deonarine, B. Ettinger, A. Galub, J. Graham, W. Hynes, G. Lieblich, R. Miller, M. Nickerson, C. Polowczyk, A. Pomerantz, R. Razaq, P. Read, J. Rempson, A. Resto, J. Ryan, R. Salgado, J. Spielberger, L. Squitieri, B. Stein, J. Todaro, H. Tyson, B. Witlieb

STUDENTS: J. Wooley

EXCUSED: R. Brown

GUESTS: A. Fuller, M. O'Riordan

1. Call to Order

Dr. Lieblich called the meeting to order at 12:45 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. The minutes of the March 19, 1992 meeting were approved with the following corrections:

In the Committee Report from Governance and Elections, item 3 should read that nomination forms will be sent out for two alternates to the University Faculty Senate. In item 4, the last word in line 3 should be appoint.

b. In the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of March 23, 1992, item 3 seems to imply that Dean Cancienne did not wish to discuss budget with the Committee. The information the Committee requested is very complex. President Brown wishes to personally discuss this material with the Committee, but was unable to attend on such short notice. He will do so at the next meeting.

3. Change in the Agenda

It was suggested that Committee Reports be given before Issues and Answers, as it was anticipated that Issues and Answers would be quite time-consuming. The change was approved unanimously.

#### 4. Announcements

##### a) Chair

1) Solidarity Day on March 26 was very successful, and resulted in over 500 letters sent to legislators as well as voter registration.

2) The March 31 student rally at Lehman College was well-run and orderly. Only students were allowed to speak, and they discussed ways and means to effect change.

3) The NYSMATIC, the New York State Mathematics Scholarship Award, named for Helen S~~pi~~ner was awarded to BCC student Angel Lambert.

4) President Brown has indicated that the \$100 million expected cuts in the New York City budget for CUNY has been changed to \$69 million. Tuition will go up from the \$1750 cap, but the City must decide what the new cap will be. The budget cut for BCC will be between \$750,000 and \$1.8 million. Chancellor Reynolds must file a statement of retrenchments, if needed.

5) The substitute lines in the Nursing Department will be replaced with full-time lines.

6) The Legislative Action Committee will lobby with members of City Council.

7) May 2 will be Homecoming Day for BCC alumni.

8) The Senate is distributing its new newsletter called The BCC Senator. Thanks go to Prof. Spielberger, the editor, Anne Scanlon, secretary, and Maribel Trinidad, student aide for producing the first issue. Thanks to Dr. Pomerantz for suggesting the name. Please send material for the next issue to Prof. Spielberger no later than April 30.

9) Dr. Lieblich has written to President Brown asking guidance on how the faculty can have more participation in the budget and other matters.

##### b) Deans: Dean Polowczyk

1) Dean Polowczyk announced that the Committee on Instruction will be asked to evaluate how tutoring money should be distributed in the College. He has asked them to suggest how \$50,000 for faculty development could be used, if the funds become available.

2) Con Edison is meeting with representatives of the College with a view to building an electrical technology laboratory.

3) Representatives of the College are meeting with officers of Our Lady of Mercy Hospital. A nurse's aide training program was instituted there, making Bronx Community College the only institution that offers training as a Nurse's Aide, LPN and RN.

4) Schools Chancellor Fernandez is establishing a Family College Program at BCC. This will allow people on public assistance to go for further training, while their children go to school on campus.

5) Tuition may increase by \$300 or \$350.

c) Dean Cancienne

Dean Cancienne announced that President Brown and members of the board of the Child Development Center are looking into ways to build a new center on the site of Stevenson Hall. The lowest bid is about \$2 million for a new type of prefabricated building. We are requesting that the Borough President use funds previously designated for other purposes for this project. This would yield about \$900,000. It is possible that the rest could be paid over a period of time as part of a lease agreement.

d) Dean Rempson

Preparations for student elections in May have been initiated. Please refer students who might be good candidates for office to Dean Rempson or Marilyn Russell.

## 5. Committee Reports

a) Academic Standing

Prof. Read reported that the Committee is studying the possibility of using nonacademic grades of "S" and "U" for remedial courses at mid-terms.

b) Curriculum

Dr. Ryan noted that the Committee's report and recommendations had been presented to the Senate at the meeting of March 19, 1992.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommendations as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

#### c) Governance and Elections

Prof. Miller reported that nomination forms for the Committee on Instruction and Professional Development have been sent to the faculty.

Ballots for alternates to the University Faculty Senate are due in Prof. Miller's office by April 27.

The Committee is reviewing amendments that have been made to the Governance Plan.

The Committee is discussing possible student representation on the College P & B.

#### d) Instruction and Professional Development

Dr. Pomerantz commented that nominations to the Committee are divisional.

Dr. Pomerantz reported that the Committee will participate in the dispersal of tutorial moneys to the various departments. There is a possibility of \$50,000 for faculty development. The Committee will entertain proposals for projects that will result in student retention.

#### e) Student Activities

Dean Rempson reported that there will be an International Food Festival on Saturday, May 2. as part of Homecoming Week.

Mr. Wooley reported that he has discussed the International Food Festival with the I.O.C.. The IOC and clubs will help with the festival, but want to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses. There will be another meeting on April 16 to determine which clubs will be involved. Mr. Wooley urged the faculty to indicate what dishes faculty members can contribute. Faculty and Administration are requested to attend.

Among the other activities on May 2, there will be a 10K run, a 2 mile walk, registration for homecoming, sports events, games for children, Hall of Fame tours, a Bridging the Gap program with alumni, dancing, and music provided by Prof. Valerie Capers, Chairperson of the Music and Art Department. The Alumni Association will present a

yearbook display and there will be an alumni registration booth in Gould Student Center.

On May 3, a Hall of Fame concert will feature music by Stephen Foster and Edward MacDowell who are in the Hall of Fame. It will feature performances by the BCC choir, Prof. Sylvia Eversole, Donna Shutz, and the Methodist Choir. Prof. John Hamell will conduct.

#### f) University Faculty Senate

Dr. Galub reported that the Chancellor has formed a new committee for articulation. Dean Polowczyk is a member.

The Chancellor has denied that she has plans for a major restructuring or retrenchment throughout the University.

The Chancellor announced that there are no uniform procedures to handle budget cuts. These must be dealt with on a campus by campus basis. The Colleges do not have the option of refusing to take a freshman class next semester.

CPI was discussed at the UFS and Dr. Galub relayed some of the concerns raised at the BCC Senate meeting of March 19. Prof. Zarin of Lehman College highlighted five areas of concern: the maintaining of open access, the role of the faculty, the high school situation and resources, the effect on the nontraditional student, and the impact on remediation.

A motion was made at the UFS to delay implementation of CPI, but there was not a quorum present, and it did not come to a vote. It was also suggested that CPI be tried as a pilot plan at selected high schools.

CPI will be discussed at a public meeting on April 13. It is on the agenda of the Board of Trustees meeting on April 27.

The CUNY Coalition of Concerned Faculty and Staff distributed a memo with several criticisms of CPI as it applies to CUNY as well as a critique of the California plan which serves as its precedent.

## 6. Issues and Answers - Institutional Morale

The discussion began with a review of a letter from the Dean of Academic Affairs which had been published in the BCC Senator regarding the problem of getting faculty

to serve on College governance committees. In the discussion that followed it was suggested that poor departmental morale may be at the root of this problem, and it was further suggested that this should be addressed in a positive manner.

Regarding a second matter, the Chairperson indicated that he had received phone calls from some faculty members who expressed concern about letters sent by the Dean to department chairpeople on the subject of Spring, 1992 teaching schedules. In some cases, Chairs had been asked to explain why certain faculty were teaching extra daytime hours. In other letters, chairs were asked to explain why certain faculty were teaching two or three-day schedules, and it was stated that four-day schedules were the norm for the College.

The following motion was made and seconded: Chairpersons should be encouraged to give faculty members two or three day teaching schedules when possible.

An amendment was made to change the suggested teaching schedules to three-day schedules. This was accepted with the understanding that it would in no way preclude fewer days per week, when warranted.

During the discussion of the motion, a variety of opinions were offered. The Dean offered the opinion that four days fit into the CUNY requirement that there be only one day for multiple position hours. In response to a question from the floor, it was established that there was no rule in the By-laws or elsewhere specifying that faculty must teach four days per week.

Several faculty members spoke about the types of activities they engage in on days when they are not scheduled to be in the classroom. These activities include the following. Faculty are at the College for meetings, preparatory work, departmental administration; observation and advisement of other faculty; College functions, student advisement, and Student Activities. On campus or off, they are engaged in preparing lessons, teaching materials, and examinations; correcting tests and reading student papers; curriculum development, grants writing, and grants administration; work on University committees and panels; doctoral and post-doctoral research, scholarship, and publishing.

It was pointed out that, due to budget problems in the College, many faculty took overloads in the Fall, 1991 semester. There is a contractual limit on the number of hours faculty can teach per year. Some were teaching extra hours in the Spring because the number of hours in the classes they teach cannot be divided evenly into 27.

It was stated that Administration and faculty should work together to determine what is best educationally.

A motion was made to postpone further discussion and action on the motion until the next meeting. The motion to postpone was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

#### 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Bass  
Secretary