

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of the City University of New York

COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Minutes of the Meeting
March 17, 1983

PRESENT: Professors Pomerantz (Chairperson), Alpert, Anderson, Brand, Diamond, Forman, Hadgis, Sokolsky, Stuchin, Wise.
Guests: Dean Polowczyk, Professors D'Andrea, Donovan, Juechter, Just, Peretz, Steuerman.

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

The purpose and sole agenda item for this meeting was the report to the full Instruction Committee on the faculty questionnaire.

Professor Pomerantz briefly reviewed for the Committee the two main purposes of the questionnaire: 1) to fulfill the College governance plan requirement that the Committee poll the faculty every spring; 2) to collect information to support our application for a professional development grant. He stated that he plans to write to the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education to offer them the findings of the questionnaire. He also noted that a few of the respondents had made "you-won't-do-anything-things-won't-change" comments. In response, Professor Pomerantz stated forcefully that the Committee will work to bring about improvement in the morale and professional status of the faculty where the questionnaire responses indicate this is needed.

Professors Anderson, Stuchin and Forman gave detailed reports on the recommendations of the faculty questionnaire subcommittee. A brief summary of the recommendations is attached to these minutes. Comment and discussion by members and guests followed. Several people observed that this project fits in with a national trend towards interest in faculty development. It was also suggested that we investigate steps which the College can take without grant assistance, and that we apply to the State Department of Education for aid, in addition to private foundations. In this regard, Dean Polowczyk pointed out that 5% of the federal education money allotted to the state is discretionary, for the state to use as it sees fit. Other comments concerned the need to avoid the "climate of fear" which is a potential danger in this sort of program, to assure continuation of faculty benefits during any career change exploratory period, to include physical activity and well-being as a component of our faculty development program, and to establish contact and idea exchange with other colleges engaged in such projects.

It was agreed to request department chairpersons to place the attached recommendations on their department meeting agendas for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Diana Hadgis, Secretary