

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Of The City University of New York

Committee on Instruction and Faculty Development

Minutes of Meeting of October 9, 1986

Present: M. Adayanju, M. Cummins, M. Glass, D. Hadgis, A. Posnerantz (Chairperson),  
J. Remson, S. Bess, H. Skinner, W. Sokolsky, L. Squitieri, M. Wise.

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Announcements

Because of concern about the study skills of our students, Dr. J. Stuchin feels that students with grade point averages below 2.50 should be encouraged to register for Learning to Learn (LTL). Professor Squitieri, who teaches LTL, explained that this three credit course is based on an interdisciplinary approach and uses such techniques as questioning, concept mapping and note-taking to develop better study skills. Professor Skinner suggested that finding a method for measuring the success patterns resulting from LTL might help to make the course more meaningful for students.

A communication is forthcoming from Dr. M. Rosenstock inviting faculty to join a Steering Committee which is being formed to prepare a Self-Study for the College's Middle States Evaluation in Spring 1988.

The Academy for the Humanities and Sciences of CUNY has published its schedule of lectures, seminars and conferences for the 1986 - 1987 academic year.

A demonstration of McIntosh Computer software is presently on display.

For information on transfer of Health and Retirement Plans, faculty and staff may contact Clarissa Weiss (354-1252).

Motion

Dr. Sokolsky moved that the Committee on Instruction go on record requesting that the Office of the Dean of Academic Affairs set aside a large, easily accessible room for appropriate faculty use and that this lounge include a semi-permanent bulletin board with relevant announcements, material, and a calendar.

Faculty Survey

Dean Remson stated that he will present information on the Faculty Survey at our next meeting.

Declining Enrollment

Discussion focused on declining enrollment and retention problems. Although college enrollment in the Northeast has steadily declined, the problems seem more unique at Bronx Community College. For the first time in years, there is no waiting list for Nursing technology courses. Dr. Sokolsky cited some reasons for low enrollment such as decrease in residential population and the lack of easy accessibility to Bronx Community College. Professor Skinner felt that some high school counselors may even fail to suggest Bronx Community College as an option.

Various recommendations were offered to help alleviate the problems. Dr. Passerente felt that this committee might act as a vehicle for exploring retention strategies and suggested another workshop on "Faculty and Student Responsibilities and Expectations". Dean Rempson suggested a survey of students' needs, concerns, and suggestions and a focus on improved instruction. Dr. Cousins recommended a faculty survey of students' needs and possible responses to those needs as well as a full-time shuttle bus service for easier accessibility to the college. Professor Skinner suggested an examination of recruitment techniques and of existing programs such as ISR and STARS which were designed to enhance basic skills.

Further, it was acknowledged that new kinds of programs may have to be designed to meet the needs of our increasing population of non-traditional students. Moreover, members of the Committee on Instruction felt that the retention of better students could be effected by non-cancellation of advanced courses.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marion Adcyanju*

Professor M. Adcyanju  
Secretary Pro-Tem