

Bronx Community College
City University of New York
University Avenue and West 181 Street
Bronx, New York 10453
Department of English
October 7, 1988

Minutes of the Committee of Instruction and Professional Development
October 6, 1988, Colston 207, 3 p.m.

Present: A. Pomerantz, Chair; L. Alpert, M. Cummins, M. Diehl, A. Fuller, D. Frank, D. Persaud, D. Rey, C. Saueracker, L. Squitieri, W. Sokolsky, T. Suraci, M. Wise, Committee Members; D. Diamond, D. Muller, and E. Norris, Guests.

1. Announcements and Old Business

1. Prof. Sokolsky was asked to request nominations for the CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) Award, a national competition for undergraduate professors taking place in the spring.

2. Dean Fuller reported that this year the Student Evaluation of Faculty will revert to its traditional time, the Fall Semester. The questionnaire should be distributed by the end of November to allow enough time to administer them.

3. Dr. Pomerantz was reelected chairman by acclamation.

4. The Workshop on Student and Faculty Responsibilities and Expectations which Dean Fuller organized will be held on Thursday, October 20 from 12:15 to 1:45 in Philosophy Hall II. The two departments featured will be Communications Arts and Sciences and Chemistry. Walter Merrigan will moderate.

5. Dr. Pomerantz distributed the Report on the Annual Survey of the Faculty from Ms. Ritze. In the discussion following, committee members noted improvements this semester in three areas wherein the Survey had shown faculty discontent--faculty facilities, participation in decision making, and intellectual climate: the quality of meals and the extended hours (11:30-2) in Community Hall; the communication of budget information from the Administration to Departments through Chairs; the seminar inaugurated by Prof. Sokolsky ("Intellectual Conference," whose first speaker will be Dr. Prince on Oct. 13); and the many lectures, seminars, and conferences available through participation in the CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences. In response to Mr. Rey's observation that for many faculty the underlying reason for low morale was administrative barriers, it was explained that the newly instituted Foundation Service Awards and grants were intended to recognize excellence in other ways than promotion.

II. New Business, Possible Workshops

1. Dr. Diamond introduced Ellen Norris, R.N., who presented the essence of a workshop she would like to hold to acquaint faculty with the Student Assistance Program, an educational program about drugs and other addictive substances. She distributed material on how to recognize the signs of addiction (see attachment). At BCC where about 30% of students are estimated to have drug related problems since addiction affects "Significant Others" and family as well as addicts. Thus, the rate of retention could be affected. Campus nurse Dorothy Muller can be contacted to advise students with problems for referral and treatment. Profs. DiCicco and Ash are also involved with the program.

2. Prof. Sokolsky suggested Prof. Robbins in Social Science could be asked to discuss his paper "Improving Scholastic Performance Through a Comprehensive Program of Stress Management, Skills Instruction and Cognitive Restructuring."

3. A workshop on faculty caring for dependent adults and continuing to function on the job was suggested.

4. A workshop on faculty morale, covering areas of low satisfaction including but not limited to those indicated by the Survey of Faculty Attitudes, was also suggested.

5. A workshop asking "What is BCC becoming as an educational institution?" was suggested and; Dr. Davidson (SES) who is the liaison person with the high school on campus may be asked to speak to the Committee.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 20th. The workshops and their sub-committees will be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Cummins

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Secretary Pro Tem.