

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
of the City University of New York

COLLEGE SENATE

Minutes of the Meeting, 17 December 1987, BH 226, 4 p.m.

Present: R. Adewumi, H. Andima, H. Balter, J. Bacote,  
M. Bates, R. Brown, F. Costello, L. DeAcetis,  
W. Duncan, H. Erdsneker, B. Ettinger, A. Fuller,  
A. Galub, R. Gourin, F. Haase, H. Hermo,  
E. Just, R. Leinaeng, J. Magaziner, S. Miranda,  
J. O'Sullivan, J. Patterson, C. Polowczyk,  
J. Reaves, J. Riley, M. Rosenstock, A. Ross,  
R. Salgado, A. Scimia, L. Squitieri, I. Zimmerman,  
J. Prince presiding.

Excused: Dean Cancienne,  
Prof. Ehrenpreis,  
Prof. Gorman,  
Dr. Matthew,  
Dr. Ryan.

Guests: D. Ashman, L. Davis, J. Juechter, E. Kish,  
R. Kor, M. O'Riordan, A. Pomerantz, N. Ritz,  
B. Taylor.

Dr. Prince opened the Meeting by welcoming President Brown.

1. PRESIDENT BROWN'S PRESENTATION

President Brown began his remarks by clarifying to the Senate absenting himself from the Meetings was a policy that preserves the autonomy of the Senate. He reported that the Chancellor has established a committee to examine the purpose and function of community colleges, and to create a paradigm for their funding. Under the current administration, the City of New York withholds some of the funds appropriated by the legislature for the CUNY community colleges. Therefore, it is necessary to represent to the City the need for releasing these funds in order to balance the budgets of community colleges. The individual community college allocations are made through the Central Office of CUNY.

Bronx Community College has a built-in imbalance. Since 1976, enrollment has dropped by 50% while the faculty has decreased by only 30%. Enrollment does not cover the deficit in the budget. Nonetheless, President Brown stated his intention to avoid attrition of the faculty, and will continue to economize on the use of materials, maintenance of buildings, service contracts, and by freezing hirings.

Since Mayor Koch is projecting a \$500 million drop in revenue, the BCC budget will be cut by \$977,000. Reducing the number of students accepted by BCC would only impact negatively on the budget. Cutting expensive programs and their staffs could only be done over a period of years, and the programs provide services that are needed in the City's economy. Special programs on supplemental income, such as Adult Literacy, could be cut, but these are funded by the State Legislature. Among the more tenable cuts are: freezing hiring; not replacing retirees; making early retirement attractive; making class size larger; cutting supplies and equipment; reducing the cost of contracts such as Security; limiting adjunct pay; not reappointing provisional and non-tenured personnel. The \$7 million in grants and contracts helps the College by providing some released time for faculty.

Faculty must expect changes in their functions and do more toward the retention of students.. Faculty must reach out to students, and guide, counsel, advise and encourage them. The students have the capabilities, they require the encouragement and support. The effect of this added encouragement and support will lead to greater retention and a better budget situation. The College will improve both the quality of its functions and its budgetary controls. Faculty may need to perform certain functions without added compensation--serving on the Senate, serving on committees, advising clubs, for example. We must consider how we relate to students and their concerns and how we relate to each other. We will have to make changes in our ways of dealing with students. We might explore offering classes on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. We have not challenged our more advanced students. We have to expect a continuing decrease in enrollment through 1990 and increased competition among colleges. We need improved interpersonal relationships between the faculty and students. We must advertise and develop innovative programs.

We will continue our high level of community involvement. BCC does more in this regard than any other such college in the State. BCC is the nucleus of an educational network. We have 6,500 degree program students and 10,000 students in other programs. The College has received support for an Educational Opportunity Center, funded by SUNY; among its programs will be an Emergency Medical Technicians training program. University Heights High School has made a favorable impression on the Director of the Council of Supervisors and Administrators, and has been well-received by CUNY Central Office.

In reply to Dr. Galub's question of whether the College Senate would be involved in developing budget reduction plans, President Brown stated his intention to inform the Senate of the plan through the Executive Committee.

When Mr. Wilson endorsed the need for retention and for improving the College's image, President Brown reminded the Senate of our slogan, "BCC: GATEWAY TO SUCCESS", and announced plans for direct mail promotion to residents and high school seniors in the Bronx and Manhattan.

2. Reports From Standing Committees of the Senate:

A. Executive Committee

Dr. Prince reported that the Executive Committee voted to make reports of the Long Range Planning Committee a regular item on the Agenda of Senate Meetings.

B. Committee on Governance and Elections

Prof. Lieblich reported on the progress of UFS elections.

C. Committee on Academic Standing

No report.

D. Curriculum Committee

The Senate received a report of Committee actions through 15 December 1987. Included were, I. Changes in the Data Processing curriculum, and II. Approval of the new A.A.S. curriculum; Air Conditioning and Refrigeration.

E. Committee on Student Activities

No report.

F. Committee on Instruction and Professional Development

Prof. Pomerantz announced the schedule of workshops for the Spring Semester.

He announced that the annual Survey of Faculty will be made in the Spring Semester of 1988.

He further announced that changes had been made in the Student Evaluation of Faculty, and those performed in the fall of 1987 would be considered an experiment. The official, college-wide evaluations of faculty will be done in the Spring Semester of 1988. He described in detail how the evaluations will be controlled and conducted by students, virtually eliminating the participation of faculty. Dr. Fuller pointed out that the changes in procedure should have been presented to the Senate before going into effect, as seemingly arbitrary actions are likely to cause discontent among both faculty and students. In reply to a question by Dr. Haase about the purpose served by the changes, Prof. Pomerantz stated the the evaluations; fulfill a legal obligation; provide him with feedback, and are used in actions on promotion and tenure.

Prof. Riley moved that the report of the Committee be accepted, and that the Committee return with a report

on the results of the Fall (1987) Semester's experimental process. The motion was approved by voice vote.

3. Report From The University Faculty Senate

Prof. Riley reported on the University Faculty Senate's resolutions on Academic Decision Making and on Racism. He further reported that the Executive Committee had given its approval to both and called upon the College Senate to adopt the resolutions. Dr. Squitieri proposed that the social issues involved in the resolution on racism required that the language be made uniform throughout.

4. Report From The University Student Senate

No report.

5. Ombudsperson's Report

Prof. Juechter distributed copies of the Fall Semester's Report to the Senate. She described the variety of cases handled by her office, which included disputes over grades and placements, thefts, and other personal disasters. She invited the college community to make use of her office.

6. Report From the Long Range Planning Committee

Prof. Hermo reported that the Committee is serious about contributing to the future of the College and the Committee needs the help of the faculty.

7. Announcement

A. Dr. Rosenstock

Dr. Rosenstock announced that the report of the Middle-states Self-study Committee is going to press and will soon be distributed.

8. Action Items:

A. Minutes of the Meeting, 17 September 1987

The Minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Minutes of the Meeting, 29 October 1987

The Minutes were approved as submitted.

C. Curriculum Committee Action, 27 October 1987

Inclusion of the courses, Spread Sheet Applications (two credits), and Data Base Applications (two credits) in the Data Processing curriculum were approved by voice vote.

D. Resolution on Racism, Sexism, and Ethnic Prejudice

The motion to adopt the Statement Of The University Faculty Senate Of The City University Of New York On Racism of 28 April 1987, substituting, "The College Senate Of Bronx Community College," for, "The University Faculty Senate," and making racist, sexist, and ethnic references uniform wherever "racism" occurs in the document, was approved by voice vote. A copy of the amended statement is appended.

E. Resolution on Academic Decision-making

The motion to adopt the Proposed Resolution Of The University Faculty Senate On Academic Decision-making of 20 October 1987 was approved by voice vote with the substitution of, "The College Senate Of Bronx Community College," for, "The University Faculty Senate." A copy of the amended resolution is appended.

F. Approval of New Student Senators

Mr. Jerry Reaves, President of the Student Government Association, presented for approval, a list of newly appointed Student Senators. The Senate approved, by voice vote, admission of the new Student Senators with voting privileges.

G. Resolution on Budget Planning

Prof. Galub's motion, "Resolved that the Executive Committee of the College Senate formulate a plan for active consultation with the Administration of the College in its response to the Mayor's request for proposed measures to meet a budgetary short-fall in fiscal year 1988-89; and further resolved that the Executive Committee report to the Senate at its next Meeting," was approved by voice vote.

9. Adjournment

The Senate was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
F. Haase, Secretary