

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Of The City University of New York

MINUTES of the FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING  
December 7, 1967  
12:35 - 2:05 P.M.

Present: President Colston, presiding; Deans Corbman, Thompson, McGrath, Rosenstock (guest), Minkin, Rosenfeld, White, Stillerman, Caffrey, Saueracker (guest); Professors Atlas, Monticone, Perlmutter, Babnis, Buckley, Steuerman, May, Baum, Stein, F. Berger, Sokolsky, Sacher, Prince, Reynolds, Mandelbaum, Casais, Erdsneker, Tyson, Pomeranz, McLaughlin, D'Andrea, Prestwidge, Terry, Galub, Kissel, Lalli, Just, Doroshkin (guest), Gottesman; Miss Scanlon, Mrs. Kelberman, Mr. Heller.

- I. The minutes of November 22 were approved as submitted.
- II. President's Report
  - A. Expression of thanks to Dean Rosenstock and team upon completion of the Master Academic Plan. BCC was the first college to submit its Plan.
  - B. Budget News: The CUNY budget for the next fiscal year was certified by the Chancellor on December 1. It was reviewed by Budget examiners, who cut much of what was requested in the operating budget except for "work load and mandated increases." They cut "improvements" which would have allowed us to lighten program loads and make such program changes for which additional money is needed. As for capital budget, the City does not allocate funds for the specific year unless the receiving agency can guarantee the use of those funds during the designated year. If BCC completes plans and is ready to enter into contract for campus construction late in 1968--as we believe, but cannot guarantee--and if, as is the City policy when guarantee cannot be given, the capital budget will not have allocated the funds, work will be further delayed. In view of these problems, the Chancellor was advised to (a) request the Budget Department to request an amendment to the capital budget which would enable us to acquire funds so that we can proceed if we are ready to do so, and (b) ask the Budget Director to certify to the State the budget approved by the Board of Higher Education.
  - C. Greater New York Fund: The drive at BCC has been successful. Contributions are still being received.
  - D. Meeting at Lehman: On Saturday morning, December 9, legislators (e. g., State senators, City Council representatives, Congressmen) and college representatives will meet at Lehman College to discuss College Programs and needs.

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- E. Faculty Conference (latter part of February): Representatives from from the Legislative Conference, AAUF, and UFCT will be invited to this meeting to address the faculty. Details will be planned when the specific date is set.

### III. Dean's Report

Dean McGrath announced that the proctoring assignments will be distributed prior to Christmas recess. Any changes must be made through department chairmen. Again, he urged careful security and locked doors, for there have been losses.

### IV. Committee Reports

- A. Academic Standing: Dean Corbman announced that at the meeting on December 13, two items of importance will be considered:

1. The E grade
2. Index classification

Those faculty members who wish to attend, may.

Question concerning the Committee's Codification which reflects tradition as well as faculty-approved policies. For example, has the faculty ever approved the tradition that the Dean of Faculty has the last word on whether a final examination is required in a course? Answer: There are administrative responsibilities, some of which are inherent in the By-Laws, but inconsistencies in procedure can certainly be pointed out and referred to Professor D'Andrea for further Committee review.

Question concerning early warning dates and whether they should be kept on the academic calendar. Answer: They are to be kept, for some early warning procedure may be instituted.

- B. High School Liaison: Professor D'Andrea expressed the hope that there can be a couple of meetings each semester with key persons from the high schools. Annual reports have been issued and will continue to be.

- C. Curriculum: Dr. Monticone reported that the Committee passed unanimously the course in the "History of Africa."

### V. "The Bulge in the Middle"

President Colston reported that at a Board of Higher Education meeting, concern was voiced that many students spend more than two years in the community college and that "perhaps we are holding too rigidly to

V. (continued)

liberal arts." As full-time students linger on and more recently admitted students catch up with them, a "bulge" in numbers develops. If students do not leave the college at the expected time, admissions are affected.

Dean Corbman explained that relatively few students merit graduation in two years. Many stay with us for at least three years; some, as many as seven. The result is that we can admit a smaller number of students than we otherwise could or perhaps should. Then, too, predictions for the 1970's show a decline in the number of academic diplomas and an increase in commercial, general, and vocational diplomas. The senior colleges will admit the highest 25% of the graduates; the community colleges will admit the next 40% plus 10% college discovery.

Dean Corbman suggested the establishment of a task force to study the problem, examine existing regulations, and map out plans. The task force will consist of the chairmen of the Curriculum Committee, Admissions Committee, Academic Standing Committee, and the Committee on Instruction--each chairman serving as representative of his committee; curriculum co-ordinators; and faculty members called upon to serve as an ad hoc committee. Proposals will then be presented to the Faculty Council for review and approval.

Discussion: Let us not forget community college 'philosophy' which allows students to take longer than two years. How realistic is it to expect most of our students to be graduated in two years? What should we do? We can fail students out, but this would not help the community. We can lower standards, but then our students' achievements would be less than worthy. We can continue to do remedial work. How about informing high schools about college needs in the hope that they will work towards these needs?

This item will be placed on the agenda for further Faculty Council discussion.

VI. Student Demonstration on December 13, 1967

Dean Thompson reported that at a meeting this morning with the ad hoc Student-Faculty Committee (consisting of Alan Lane, Robert Flax, Harriet Vines, and Clement M. Thompson), a statement was drawn which reiterates the STUDENT GOVERNMENT POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING PROTESTS, DEMONSTRATIONS, ETC. passed by the Executive Committee of Student Council on November 10 and approved by the Faculty Committee on Student Activities on November 15. This POLICY STATEMENT is recorded in the Faculty Council minutes of November 22, 1967. On December 7, the Student Assembly passed this POLICY STATEMENT; organizational details were added. Attached is a copy of the December 7 statement (prepared for circulation on 12/11/67).

Respectfully submitted,

*L. Gottesman*  
Lillian Gottesman