

Minutes of the Faculty Council Meeting on January 15, 2015

Members: S. Davis, A. McInerney, I. Mirsky, M. Pita, N. Reynoso, J. Sanabria, R. Shane, H. Skinner, S. Utakis, H. Clapman, F. Moore, L. Brenner, R. Bass, S. Khan, D-E. Matsoukas, J. Athanasourelis, D. Genova, L. Lawton, A. Lal, M. Fein, R. Quinn, O. Littlehawk, D. Pearson, E. Hardman (alternate seated), B. Rima (alternate seated)

Alternates: F. Blanchard, K. Lee

Guests: J. Heller, S. Persinger, L. Rosario

- 1) The meeting was called to order by F. Moore.
- 2) The agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote.
- 3) The approval of the minutes of November 13, 2014 meeting was postponed to the February meeting.
- 4) Presidential Search Process:
 - a) **Faculty members of the Presidential Search Committee:** F. Moore stated that Interim President Marti will leave his position at the end of the spring 2015 semester. The floor was open to discuss the appointments of three faculty members to the presidential search committee as the deadline to submit their names was January 16, 2015. The distributed handout "The City University of New York Guidelines for Presidential Searches" specified the candidate requirements and the needed details of the process. In particular, it was clarified that faculty needed not hold tenure or CCE to qualify as candidates.
 - b) **The BCC Governance Plan and the CUNY Guideline:** According to the provision B2 of the College Governance Plan, the College Senate has the responsibility to "participate in the search for and appointment of the President of the College". Therefore, one question that needed to be addressed was whether the election of the faculty members of the committee should be conducted at the Senate or at the Faculty Council. The CUNY Guidelines states that "if there is no official faculty governance body established by the college's approved governance plan, then the faculty representatives to the Search Committee shall be elected by the faculty members of the college governance body". That is, the statement allows the Faculty Council, which is a college governance body composed of faculty, to elect the faculty members to the search committee. F. Moore conveyed that D. Gonsher believed that the BCC College Governance Plan trumps over the CUNY Guidelines, giving the College Senate the responsibility to elect the Search Committee members. Also the Senate procedures would be subject to Perez open meetings rules, while those of the Faculty Council would not. S. Davis mentioned that the CUNY Guideline should be followed because the issue at hand is "the BCC Governance Plan vs. the CUNY Guideline (manual)" and the Presidential search is a university process. That is, the Faculty Council should be allowed to elect the Search Committee members. F. Moore clarified that according to the Governance Plan, the role of the Faculty Council is to elect members of different committees. F. Moore also added that the Interim President's role in the process is to appoint two student members and one alumnus member. I. Mirsky mentioned the importance of informing and including the college community in the search process.
 - c) **Resolution:** A. Lal proposed a resolution to choose the three faculty members to the Presidential Search Committee by the Faculty Council. J. Sanabria questioned if the current concern was based on the incomplete number of faculty present at the meeting, and the Council confirmed the concern. S. Davis emphasized that "the time was now and here" and that everything was explained. A. McInerney agreed

that the Faculty Council should take the responsibility and elect representatives who would best reflect our interests. He added that this was preferable than engaging the Senate Executive Committee to the process. A. Lal made the motion to pass the resolution to elect three faculty for the Committee of the Presidential Search. Nominations required permissions from the nominees. The motion was passed by paper ballot (19 yes, 5 no, and 1 abstain).

- d) **Election:** Subsequently, the floor was open for nominations of the candidates. A. McInerney, who formerly served as a member of the Presidential Search Committee, informed that the workload was "not insignificant", involving 6~8 meetings, and the review of about hundred resumes. The nominees included: J. Molina (Chemistry), N. Reynoso (Student Development), L. Lawton (Library), F. Moore (Business), C. Robinson (Biology), S. Powers (Education), and E. Antonakos (Mathematics). The candidates briefly introduced themselves or were introduced, and votes were cast by paper ballot. Based on the majority of the votes cast (greater than 13 votes), N. Reynoso, L. Lawton, and F. Moore were elected as the faculty members to the Presidential Search Committee (Molina 4, Reynoso 14, Lawton 14, Moore 20, Robinson 4, Powers 12, and Antonakos 5).
- e) **Issues of input:** With respect to the qualification of the Presidential candidates, F. Moore informed that there are mandatory and preferred requirements, with CUNY central reviewing the applications first. F. Moore opened the floor to discuss the Presidential qualifications that would need to be reflected in the search process. The first one that everyone vocally agreed upon was the absence of negative track record in previous institutions that the candidates served. This would require inquiry into the public record of the candidate. M. Pita commented that Chancellor Milliken may well be understanding of such request by the BCC community. L. Rosario pointed out that there are other campus parties such as the HEOs, CLTs, etc. who are currently not present in this meeting, and therefore, there is a need to reached out to them to incorporate their input. One other required qualification may be the possession of a terminal research degree such as the PhD or the JD. Among many others, one preferred qualification may be fundraising or business experience to alleviate the current financial situation of BCC. H. Skinner added that the candidate should be a passionate person who cares about the members and the needs of the BCC community. The Council came to deep mutual agreement on this aspect. The Council discussed other technicality of the search process such as the place of advertisement since this could play a key role in selecting the candidate population.
- f) Discussion was briefly held to recommend staff members such as the HEOs or the CLTs as candidates to the alumnus member of the Search Committee. In response to the question whether the activities of the Search Committee would be communicated to the college community, F. Moore stated that the process will remain as transparent as possible, and that it will incorporate the input of the BCC community to the maximum extent. A. McInerney added that "We should demonstrate the level of faculty/college cohesiveness to the next President".

5) Adjournment: 2 PM

Respectfully submitted by,
Kyeng (Joe) Lee