Minutes of February 20, 2013


Meeting called to order at 2:24 p.m., A. McInerney

1. Approval of February 20, 2013 SEC agenda: Approved unanimously by voice vote.

2. Approval of December 17, 2012 SEC Minutes: Approved unanimously by voice vote.

3. Update on Dec. 17 Senate Executive Committee meeting: A. McInerney noted that a question was raised by at least one faculty member about whether the meeting had been held in compliance with the open meetings law, particularly whether there was sufficient public notice of the meeting. The administration in consultation with legal downtown determined that the meeting and the business conducted could be the subject of a lawsuit, but short of that it could stand. A. McInerney does believe that the business conducted did reflect the will of the Senate Executive Committee.

4. Update on compensatory hours (and their relationship to financial aid and tuition):
   a. A. McInerney reported on his discussions with Bruce Birnbaum, a CUNY internal auditor who is reviewing BCC. VP Coleman provided additional clarification.

5. Pathways: A. McInerney noted that the administration at BCC has bent over backwards to comply with the governance process. BCC is almost unique in CUNY in this regard. The administration did send two courses forward last Wednesday to bucket E that were not voted on by Senate yet (AST 12 and CSI 30), but had been approved unanimously by the Curriculum committee. The two courses were not reviewed by the Pathways Scientific World subcommittee.

6. Report from Faculty Council: M. Pita noted that there was a discussion of the third resolve from the resolution on Pathways. The general feeling of the body was that it’s no longer relevant and no longer has support because of several developments. The compensatory hours for English have been allowed as scheduled hours. English 14, 15, and 16 have been approved in the buckets through the Pathways committee. J. Freeman would like to acknowledge the tremendous amount of work done by the faculty over the past two years.

7. Approval of February 21, 2013 Senate agenda: A. McInerney is worried about quorum, since Freshman Convocation is occurring at the same time. A motion to
waive the two meeting rule requires 39 votes and half of the student senators will be at convocation. A motion to move the curriculum committee report to the Action Items section of the agenda passed unanimously by voice vote. A motion to move the committee reports to after the action items on the agenda passed unanimously by voice vote. A motion to accept the agenda as amended passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. Other
   a. A. McInerney noted that tomorrow’s meeting will be in ME 228. For the remaining Senate meetings of the semester, A. McInerney has reserved Nichols 104 because the Senate meetings have been too crowded.
   b. Compliance with governance plan: BCC’s past practice had been that the president’s appointee was a non-voting member. The current appointee, VP Bayardelle, is voting on the Academic Review Committee. In addition, there is not a provision in the governance plan for VP Brewer to be a voting member of the College P&B. A. McInerney noted that the governance plan and our practices should match. The governance plan may need to be changed to account for this.

Adjournment at 3:32 p.m., A. McInerney

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura C. Broughton
Secretary