May 20, 1999


Guests: Atlaw Belligne, Paula Bernaschina, David Blot, Grace Cafras, Diana D’Alessio, Jason Finkelstein, Debra Gomsher, Charlotte Hoop, Michael Kamuck, Eileen Mattone, Jennifer Misick, Eugene Passer, Kathleen M. Pesile, Hope Richardson, Nancy Ritzer, Joseph Todaro, Carol White

Excused: Donna Goetz

Meeting called to order at 12:20 by Dr. Ruth Bass

I – The agenda was adopted

II – The minutes of April 22, 1999 were adopted.

III – President Williams welcomed our guest, a new CUNY Trustee, Ms. Kathleen M. Pesile. Ms. Pesile described her CUNY education at Staten Island, and then her experience as a leading international investment banker from 1986 to 1994. She has worked to forge links between the corporate world and the university community. As a Trustee, she is concerned about redundancy and lack of cohesion within CUNY. She sees her role to ensure the city gets a proper return on the investment of time, money, and people.

IV – President’s Report.

The President reported on the latest round of Professional Development Grants, and reemphasized the need for creativity, and the interdisciplinary thrust that originally led to this special program. The grants should be an opportunity to develop ideas not funded elsewhere that will benefit the teaching and learning environment at the campus.

She announced that the Committee on Higher Education of the Middle States is reviewing the site visitors’ report on Bronx Community College. She expects a good report.

President Williams also announced that the report of the Mayor’s Task Force on CUNY is now expected between June 1st and 15th.

V – Announcements and Reports:

From the Senate. Dr. Ruth Bass, the Chairperson announced that the Executive Committee of the Senate has approved a change of name and description for CHM 10 and CHM 12. There is no change in content (see minutes of Curriculum Committee, appended).

The implementation of the new system of plus and minus grades (recently approved by the Senate) will be postponed until technical problems with SIMS can be solved.

Procedures for naming and renaming college spaces and buildings will be reexamined in the Fall.
Professor Kenneth Fogarty is resigning as Ombudsperson. with our gratitude for his service. A new Ombudsperson will be elected at the September 1999 Senate meeting. For this election, faculty members have one vote each and students have three votes each.

From Faculty Council. Dr. Howard Fulds announced that new officers will be elected to Faculty Council on September 16, 1999.

From Academic Affairs. Vice President Keiza announced that English 10 is ready to be approved by the Board of Trustees, and that the federally-funded Environment Technology Curriculum has been approved by the CUNY Board of Trustees as a full AS degree.

The summer immersion program. under the direction of Jason Finklestein, is ready for another successful summer.

From Administration and Finance. Vice President Coleman announced that a survey to prepare for further computer connectivity throughout the campus is complete. We now need to pressure the City of New York to fund the community colleges. The State legislature has passed a "maintenance of effort" bill, which means that the city cannot use the additional state money to reduce its' funding of CUNY.

From Student Development. Vice President Serafin thanks everyone for her first three months at BCC. She is proud that we have two valedictorians, both with a 4.0 this year.

VI - Coordinated Planning Council
Deans Rize and Taylor, and Drs. Abdellatif and Berger reported on the progress of the Coordinated Planning Council (CPC). Established in April 1998, the CPC is an analytic and advisory group that engages in strategic planning for the college. Over the past year, three overall goals were approved for the college: Sustain Fiscal Stability, Guarantee Academic Excellence, and Continuously Improve Institutional Performance. In addition, a College Report Card is in preparation, to be used to involve the entire college community in ongoing planning and improvement.

VII - Committee reports and Action Items.

A. The Curriculum Committee reported approval of the Change in title and description of CHM 10 from "Contemporary Chemistry" to "Chemistry in Everyday Life" and of CHM 13 from "Topics in Chemistry" to "Chemistry in Daily Living." A proposed change in CHM 17 from "Fundamentals of General Chemistry" to "Fundamentals of Environmental and General Chemistry" was not approved, by a vote of 9-4-5. (See minutes appended).

The Subcommittee on Continuing Education submitted a report, unanimously accepted, Reestablishment of contact between regular and continuity education has been fruitful.

The Subcommittee on Course Evaluation of remedial courses met approximately 12 times this year, with more than 20 hours of meetings, reviewing some "troubling statistics" about the student progress through remediation, and about parallel courses that are not always well coordinated. This led to a series of recommendations. The whole Curriculum Committee engaged in vigorous discussion of this report, and voted 11-8-1 to approve it.
At this meeting, the Senate debated the report of this subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee. Since most members of the Senate have not seen this report, it was moved and unanimously accepted that the report should be circulated to all members of the Senate, with documentation and with appended statements from the chairs of the departments who provide remediation. Such statements are voluntary; it was pointed out that the English Department accepts the report and therefore will not be appending a statement.

B. The Committee on Governance and Elections announced the results of elections of Faculty-at-large to the Senate. Twenty-five candidates ran for 14 seats. The winners are: Ruth Bass, Madeline Bates, Kathleen Berger, Vincent Bonelli, Marsha Cummins, Arthur Galub, Marjorie Garrido, Paula Gilbern, Debra Gonsiber, Virginia Mishkin, Phyllis Read, Henry Skinner, Jeffrey Spielberger, and Bernard Wulub.

C. The Space and Facilities Committee is rethinking the policy on naming buildings.

D. The CUNY Faculty Senate passed a resolution calling for the immediate elimination of weapons on CUNY campuses. This is not a problem at BCC, as our peace officers do not carry weapons, but it is a problem on other campuses.

E. Other committees had no reports at the present time.

VII. New Business. Dr. Howard Fuld commended Dr. Ruth Bass’s service as Chair of the Senate over a difficult period. Dr. Bass thanked Dr. Fuld for service as Chair of Faculty Council.

Respectfully Submitted:

[Signature]

Kathleen Berger, Secretary Pro Tem.
To: Members of the College Senate  
From: Professor James D. Ryan, Chair, Curriculum Committee  
Subject: Report of Actions by the Curriculum Committee, through 5/18/99.

May 19, 1999

1. Actions reported to the Senate for the first time:

A. Change in Course Title: CHM 17 (Department of Chemistry)  
   From “Fundamental of General Chemistry” to “Fundamental of Environmental & General Chemistry.”  
   Not approved 5/4/99 9-4-5

B. Report to the Subcommittee on Continuing Education  
   Received 5/4/99 viva voce

   Approved 5/18/99 11-8-1

II. Actions previously reported to the Senate and actionable at this meeting:  

NONE

III. Actions approved by the Senate Executive Committee on behalf of the Senate:

Revise Existing Courses - Change in title & description  
1. CHM 10: From “Contemporary Chemistry” to “Chemistry in Everyday Life.”  
   Approved in Curriculum Committee 5/4/99 viva voce  
   Approved in Senate Executive 5/18/99 unanimously