BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of the City University of New York

COMMITEE ON INSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professor Allen Pomerantz, Chairman

Minutes of the Meeting of October 18, 1984

The following members were present: Dean John Stevenson; Professors Vincent Anderson, Annette Peretz, Allen Pomerantz, Wallace Sokolsky, Louise Squitieri, Mitchell Wenzel, Marian Wise; Mr. Adrian Figueroa; Students Rosaura Qasillos, Edith Irza, Emilia Martinez, Ken Stein.

Dr. E. Schor's absence was excused.

The minutes of the October 4, 1984 meeting will be considered at the next meeting.

The chairman reported on the subject of student evaluation questionnaires. He had received evaluation forms from other units of CUNY. He noted that Queensboro evaluates both in the Fall and Spring of one year, and then skips the next year. He reported that other colleges are dissatisfied with their evaluation questions, and would like to have a revision of their questionnaires. Interestingly enough, Kingsboro also has student evaluations of their counselors.

Professor Sokolsky suggested that the theme for this year be testing. Dean Stevenson announced that Dr. Belven Williams, former Executive Vice-President of the Educational Testing Service, is a consultant to BCC and may be a resource to this theme.

Dean Stevenson said that various people on campus had developed a lot of instructional materials, and that these should be pulled together so that staff development and instructional strategies can be coordinated.

The Chairman suggested that our theme for this year might be the use of staff development as an aid to instruction.

Professor Squitieri suggested that our focus be on retention, such as ISR which is a staff development activity directly relating to students.

The Chairman asked those students present what their needs were; they replied that they needed more support systems, such as tutors.

Professor Peretz suggested that the Center for Improvement in Teaching and Learning might give us some leads as to what to do.

Most Committee members agreed that retention would be a good theme. Professor Squitieri broke down the components into the following: Testing, Department Learning Labs, Learning Center, Outside Speakers, Student Needs, Teaching Strategies, ISR.

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The Chairman suggested one thing we might do is to bring two or three of our students to one meeting for the purpose of assessing student needs.

Professor Peretz suggested MASTERY learning as a teaching strategy.

The question of retention and differing student goals was discussed.

Dean Stevenson suggested that we might say to the Faculty that BCC is one of only two units in CUNY which is student oriented. Our concern for students is evidenced by the many positive things we do to help students: the Learning Center, the learning labs, tutors, to name but a few.

The Committee’s response was that perhaps the theme should be more positive: How we ARE meeting student goals; how we ARE EFFECTIVELY meeting student needs.

The Chairman asked each Committee member to come to the next meeting prepared to get a theme name and to suggest activities to meet this theme.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Anderson
Professor Vincent Anderson,
Secretary pro tem