



Borough of Manhattan Community College  
The City University of New York  
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Minutes  
February 26th, 2020  
Room N451

- I. CALL TO ORDER: 2:42pm
- II. ATTENDANCE: A quorum was achieved. The following senators were absent:  
Mohammad Azhar, Joel Barker, Warren Benfield, James Blake, Melissa Butler, Anson Cheng, Chizaram Chibueze, Jason Danison, Judy Eng, Monica Foust, Erik Freas, Deborah Gambs, Abdoul-Hanane Gbadamassi, Quintasia Harris, Joel Hernandez, Jun Liang Rice, Laurie Lomask, Alicia Perdomo, Jessica Roman, Lisa Rose, Rifat Salam, Gilles Ghislain Tanke Seuilo
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Minutes from the meeting of 1.29.2020 were approved with corrections.
- IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES: The following items were unanimously approved by the Academic Senate:
  - a. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
    - i. Curriculum Revision: Communication Studies  
Description: This change provides majors with more flexibility and choices in the program and elective requirements for the major.
    - ii. Course Revision: MES 140 Introduction to the Moving Image  
Description: This revision changes the course hours to 2 lecture and 2 lab to improve student learning outcomes related to analysis and writing and changes the basic skills to accommodate the new index scores.
  - b. COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
    - i. Organized and sent out a flyer for two events pertaining to the coronavirus outbreak:
      1. Community meeting, March 4 from 2:00 – 3:00pm
      2. Coronavirus information session, March 4 from 3:00 – 4:00pm
    - ii. Continued work on securing an interfaith space for students.
    - iii. Continued work on retention and probation issues.
    - iv. Continue to push for menstrual supplies on every BMCC campus.
  - c. FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
    - i. Joe Doctor will be held on March 10 from 2:00 – 4:00pm in Richard Harris Terrace; Django Paris (University of Wisconsin) is the guest speaker.

- ii. Faculty Development Grants have been received (32 proposals) and will be sent to reviewers next week. More reviewers are needed – interested faculty should contact C. Kronen (FDC Chair) or other FDC members. The committee will provide training for reviewers. AS Chair reminded the body that reviewing FDGs is counted as college service.
- d. INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE
- i. Amended online observation guidelines. Will ask departmental Chairs to bring to faculty for commentary by March AS meeting.
  - ii. Working on changing Student Evaluations of teaching. Have a draft set of questions for piloting with select instructors this semester. Faculty interested in piloting the questions this semester should contact A. Colapinto (IC Chair). Committee will bring a proposal to April AS meeting to have a pilot of these questions in Fall 2020.
- e. ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE
- i. Old business: committee read 1710 appeals in January 2020, compared with 1214 in January 2019, a 40.9% increase. Most of the increase can be attributed to a change in the way Financial Aid is processing data (by semester as opposed to annually).
  - ii. Appeal signing: committee voted to reaffirm its policy that a department Chair or Deputy Chair can sign the appeal form in lieu of the course instructor only when:
    - (1) the course instructor has given consent or
    - (2) the course instructor is no longer at the college or is unreachable.
- f. ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE
- i. Examined wide variety of factors causing the 5% enrollment decline this semester, which included:
    - 1. Significant admission/registration backlog as a result of implementation of CUNY Central's proficiency index.
      - a. Average enrollment time increased from 8 minutes to 25 minutes.
      - b. Algorithm glitches – proficiency index could not place students that had earned a GED without a GPA, leaving 300-500 students unable to complete the admissions process.
    - 2. Campus delivery system failure began on December 8. Most official correspondence was not delivered, including messages related to admissions and registration.
  - ii. The admissions committee proposes drafting a resolution statement to CUNY Central, describing poor implementation of the proficiency index and documenting significant impact on admissions, college faculty and staff across departments and CUNY community colleges.
    - 1. Efforts will be made to produce and deliver this resolution statement in conjunction with faculty at other CUNY community colleges.
- g. ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE
- i. Continued to research of tape recording in the classroom. Will bring information to the body at the April AS meeting.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

- a. DfS forum was a success. Faculty and staff to be invited to give input on BMCC's mission statement (3 choices), vision statement (14 choices) and values by online voting. Student forums are planned where student will also be invited to give feedback.
- b. Chair received information about funding opportunities in the Humanities. If interested, email Sarah Danielsson at sdanielsson@gc.cuny.edu

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. UFS report summary:
  - i. CUNY proposed a 2.2% increase of 60.3 million in the operating budget for senior colleges.
  - ii. Legislators approved \$4.4 million for OER, SEEK programs to be funded at the current level
  - iii. Community Colleges-will endure about a \$10.8 million funding decrease due to the decrease in enrollment.
  - iv. Governor has increased Excelsior Scholarships for middle class families with incomes from \$125,000 to \$155,000.
  - v. NYC has set aside funds to cover costs of the recent PSC contract so that all labor increases will be covered.
  - vi. The UFS has charged an ad-hoc committee to conduct a "Pathways after 6 years Review."
- b. Paul Krugman will be at BMCC on March 18, speaking about his latest book. Time and place TBD.
- c. The body was reminded that Union meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, so every effort should be made to avoid scheduling events during these hours.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 3:49pm