

May 23, 2017

To: Academic Senate Chair Sangeeta Bishop

From: Margaret Carson, Chair of the Faculty Development Committee

Re: End-of-Year Report AY 2016-2017

Following in the tradition of previous Faculty Development Committees, this year's committee successfully organized two events: Faculty Development Day in the fall and the Joe Doctor Colloquium in the spring, both of which were well-received, with an especially large audience at the Joe Doctor. The committee also oversaw the 2017-2018 Faculty Development Grants, for which it received 52 applications. Awards were made of over \$78,000 (in funds or its equivalent value in release time) to 17 faculty members in 9 departments in support of their research projects.

Committee members Sharon Brickman, Ainoa Íñigo, Geoffrey Klock (Secretary), Jae Ki Li (Liaison to the Executive Committee), Silvia Roig, George Stevenson, and Shalva Tsiklavri all made significant contributions and are greatly thanked for their hard work.

In the report that follows I will describe the committee's activities in more detail. I will also make recommendations for next year's committee.

Given the importance of the Faculty Development Committee, which is charged with organizing two major events and with administering BMCC's Faculty Development Grants, I would suggest that certain changes in its operations be considered:

- For the sake of continuity, at least three members from the previous year's committee should serve again.
- Two subcommittees should be formed: one to plan and organize the faculty events (Faculty Development Day and the Joe Doctor Colloquium), and the other to focus on organizing and overseeing the Faculty Development Grant.
- The committee should have two co-chairs, one overseeing events, and the other overseeing the Faculty Development Grant.
- The members could also decide how to "staff" its responsibilities, with some assigned to the events and others to the Faculty Development Grant, and a few "utility" members switching back and forth depending on committee needs at different points on the calendar.

Rationale: Planning the two events and organizing and overseeing the Faculty Development Grant calls on vastly different skills. Additionally, the period in which the events are planned overlaps with the busy period of the grant application (submission, evaluation, announcement of awarded projects, etc.). The work the committee is charged with requires well-considered ideas, efficient follow-up and meticulous care (especially with respect to the Faculty Development Grant), all of which benefits from clearer lines of responsibility and at least two key point persons.

Faculty Development Day, Wednesday November 30, 2016.

The theme of the event, chosen at the first meeting of the committee in September 2016, was “New Pedagogical Approaches.” A call for proposals was emailed to all full- and part-time faculty. On the basis of the proposals submitted, presenters were selected for three panels. (The panels and presenters are listed in Appendix A.)

A write-up of the event was published in BMCC’s online news:
<http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/news/news.jsp?id=13386>

Looking ahead to Fall 2017, I would suggest that:

- Call for proposals for Faculty Development Day be sent out at the beginning of the Fall 2017 semester with a September 29, 2017 deadline for submission.
- At least one panel should be composed of Faculty Development grant recipients (2016-2017), who will talk about their projects and what they accomplished during their grant period.
- Panels should have no more than three presenters to leave time for a Q&A with the audience.
- Richard Harris Terrace has been reserved in advance for the Fall 2017 Faculty Development Day on *Wednesday, October 11, 2017*, from 10:30am-2:30pm.
- Another possible date for Faculty Development Day is Wednesday, November 29, 2017. Because it is the 5th Wednesday that month, the 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm time slot will be open (no classes, no committee meetings, no Academic Senate, no departmental meetings will held at that time). Moving Faculty Development Day to that day and time will allow more faculty to attend.

The **Joe Doctor Colloquium 2017**, held on April 26, 2017 in the 13th Floor conference room of Fiterman Hall, considered the topic “Investigations and Collaborations: New Models for Research on the Community College.” Approximately 60-70 people attended. (The program, with an event description and the roundtable participants, has been attached to this report.)

Before this year’s Colloquium, the committee made inquiries about the origins of the event and included this note in the program:

The annual Joe Doctor Colloquium was established in the early 1990s in the honor of Joseph Doctor, a longtime faculty member and Associate Dean for Faculty Development known for his inspired support of teaching and learning at BMCC. Organized by the Faculty Development Committee, for over 25 years the Joe Doctor Colloquium has showcased faculty presentations and keynote speakers on a wide range of topics related to teaching and scholarship at BMCC.

Looking ahead to the Joe Doctor Colloquium in Spring 2018, the Committee may want to consider several options as to its format and theme:

- Option of a roundtable on a theme, as in 2017, but with fewer panelists (no more than four). A moderator could be added to ask a few questions after presentations and engage the panelists

with each other before taking questions from the audience. This year's theme grew out of the FIG (Faculty Interest Group) focused on the community college as a site of research and investigation.

- Option of inviting a keynote speaker and discussants who could respond to the keynoter's address. Cathy Davidson, the Director of the Futures Initiative at the Graduate Center, was initially invited to speak. She was unable to appear on the date of the event, but she expressed interest in being invited to speak at BMCC in the future.
- The Richard Harris Terrace has been reserved on *Wednesday April 18, 2018* from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm for the 2018 Joe Doctor Colloquium, but the Committee is free to choose another date, if it wishes.

Preparations for the **Faculty Development Grant** application period began in September. The existing application and guidelines were reviewed; the option of applying for release time was added to the existing grant award of up to \$5,000.

A dedicated webpage on the BMCC Academic Senate site was created for the application guidelines and instructions.

<http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/academicsenate/page.jsp?pid=1087&n=Faculty%20Development%20Grant>

To assist in processing applications and in contacting applicants and evaluators, the Committee opened a "Faculty Development Committee" Sharepoint site on the BMCC portal and established a BMCCFacultyDevelopmentCommittee@bmcc.cuny.edu email account. (Christopher Losco (cloSCO@bmcc.cuny.edu) in the College Computer Center was the Committee's contact.)

Timeline:

December 2016: Application period begins.

February 14, 2017: 5:00 p.m. Deadline for completed applications.

mid-April 2017: Notification of awards.

Once the committee had received all the applications (there were 52), it sent out a college-wide email requesting volunteer evaluators. About 65 faculty volunteered to read proposals. Each proposal was evaluated by two faculty using [this rubric](#). Faculty were also requested to offer substantive and constructive feedback, which was later sent to all applicants. It was a double-blind process: applicants' names did not appear on proposals, and the names of faculty evaluators were not revealed to applicants.

The committee shared the responsibility of sending out proposals to evaluators in the applicant's field and of keeping track of them. Each committee member handled 7-8 proposals.

The committee made a list of applicants who had the highest average score and sent it to the Office of Academic Affairs for their approval. As noted above, 17 faculty members were awarded faculty development grants (of these, about 30% requested release time).

An article appeared in the BMCC webpage when the awards were announced as well as on the CUNY Newswire

<http://www1.cuny.edu/mu/forum/2017/04/21/bmcc-selects-16-professors-to-receive-more-than-77k-in-research-grants/>

Looking ahead to next year's Faculty Development Grant application period, the committee may want to consider several options:

- An electronic application (rather than the pdf currently required) would be ideal. Setting this up and testing it would require time and attention up front, but it would make the committee's work much easier over the long run. (A possible model for an e-application is the PSC-CUNY Research Award Program.) Initial discussions began with Christopher Losco in the College Computing Center, but time pressures made it impossible to set it up and test it before the application period opened. Perhaps a small working group within the committee could be set up next year for this purpose.
- Revising the existing rubric to make gradations finer, so that applicants' scores do not cluster so markedly in the highest ranges. Clearer guidelines to reviewers might also help establish parameters for assessing individual proposals.
- Coordinate with the Office of Academic Affairs on the announcement of grant recipients, so that the notification is either a joint one or comes from the Faculty Development Committee.

One new initiative starting with this year's cycle of grant awards (as stated in the guidelines) is that "grant recipients will be asked to share their work with the BMCC community by giving a presentation in collaboration with CETLS and by creating a concise web-based write-up of their project. The write-ups will become part of a project showcase on the CETLS web site."

Grant recipients can make presentations during Faculty Development Day, or by co-presenting with another grant recipient, or by giving a talk in one's department. The idea is that the presentation be of benefit to the greatest number of people.

APPENDIX A

Faculty Development Day, November 30, 2016

Panels and Presenters:

Pedagogy Unbound: Innovative Strategies

Angeles Donoso Macaya, Modern Languages: "Tumblr, Film and Conversation";
Benjamin Haas, Speech, Communications and Theatre Arts: "Existential Persuasion: Open Educational Resources and Open Access Pedagogy";
Caroline Pari-Pfisterer, English: "Accelerating Developmental Writing at BMCC: The ENG 100.5 Model"; and
Kathleen Offenholley, Mathematics: "Game-Based Learning."

Contemplative Practices and Pedagogy

Rifat Salam, Social Sciences, Human Services and Criminal Justice: "Contemplative Pedagogy: Promise, Practice and the Inner Life of a Teacher";
Lisa Rose, Social Sciences, Human Services and Criminal Justice: "Contemplating Intention: How to Mindfully Reclaim Assessment";
Precious Sellars-Mulhern, Counseling Center: "Exploring Contemplative Practices to Improve Faculty and Student Life"; and
Lesley Rennis, Health Education: "Turning Student Groups into Effective Teams: The Puzzle."

The Teaching Academy

Judith Yancey, Master Teacher, Academic Literacy and Linguistics: "The Big Impact of Small Changes";
Meryem Zaman, Teaching Fellow, Social Sciences, Human Services and Criminal Justice: "An Interdisciplinary Engagement Towards Learning and Teaching";
Anastassios Rigopoulos, Teaching Fellow, Media Arts and Technology: "The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Teacher" and
John Beaumont, Director, BMCC Teaching Academy, Academic Literacy and Linguistics: "The BMCC Teaching Academy: Advancing a College Culture of Teaching and Learning."

JOE DOCTOR COLLOQUIUM

**Investigations and Collaborations:
New Models for Research on the Community College**

WHEN

April 26, 2017:
11:45-12pm Sign in (pre registration required)
12-1pm Roundtable
1pm Lunch

WHERE

**Fiterman Hall
13th Floor Conference Room**

WHAT

How can faculty research focused on the community college intersect with calls for greater student agency? In this year's Joe Doctor Colloquium we will consider a model of community college research that aligns community college faculty researchers with student collaborators and participants. BMCC faculty members will share ongoing projects that bring faculty and student investigations into a broader conversation that challenges data-driven approaches to community college research. Building on a student collaborative model, we will also consider the role played by experiential learning at BMCC.

WHY

**Kid: "Talk to her, dad. She's a doctor."
Tom Hanks: "Of what? Her first name could be 'doctor.'"
Sleepless in Seattle (1993)**

The annual Joe Doctor Colloquium was established in the early 1990s in the honor of Joseph Doctor, a longtime faculty member and Associate Dean for Faculty Development known for his inspired support of teaching and learning at BMCC. Organized by the Faculty Development Committee, for over 25 years the Joe Doctor Colloquium has showcased faculty presentations and keynote speakers on a wide range of topics related to teaching and scholarship at BMCC.

HOW

Your Friendly Neighborhood Faculty Development Committee

WHO

**OPEN TO ALL BMCC FACULTY
AND STAFF**

PANELISTS

**Laura K. Burrell, Director,
Office of Internships and
Experiential Learning**

&

**David Caicedo, Assistant
Professor, Social Sciences,
Human Services and
Criminal Justice**

&

**Maureen Matarese,
Associate Professor,
Academic Literacy and
Linguistics**

&

**Michael Partis, Adjunct
Lecturer, Center for Ethnic
Studies**

&

**Rosario Torres, Assistant
Professor, Academic
Literacy and Linguistics**

Laura K Burrell comes to BMCC with expertise in experiential learning pedagogy, program design as well as career and professional development advising related to undergraduate and graduate students. As Director of Internships and Experiential Learning and an Adjunct Lecturer in the Media Arts and Technology and Business departments, she is an advocate for the transformational impact that experiential education can have on student success. Her work includes teaching, curriculum development, educating and counseling students, creating assessment components that help track, analyze and report learning outcomes as well as experiential learning program risk management. She works to leverage institutional, local, state and federal resources to create applied learning opportunities that improve student perseverance, retention and academic success. Previously, Laura held faculty and administrative positions at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Science in Arts Administration from Drexel University, where her graduate research studied innovative marketing practices in nonprofit organizations.

Assistant Professor David A. Caicedo received his Ph.D. in Social-Personality Psychology at the CUNY Graduate Center. He has been at BMCC since Fall 2012, where he teaches the General Psychology, Social Psychology, Psychology of Personality, and Abnormal Psychology courses.

Prof. Caicedo's research centers on the Latino/a experience in the U.S., including Latino/a demographic patterns in the Tri-State area. His work focuses on the psycholinguistics of the (contemporary) immigration debate, political ideology, and the complicity between the news media, policymakers, and popular opinion.

Maureen T. Matarese, an Associate Professor of Academic Literacy and Linguistics at BMCC, City University of New York, is a sociolinguist and discourse analyst specializing in the analysis of institutional interaction in higher education and social work. She examines the relationship between policy and practice in face-to-face, street-level organizational communication. She has published in *Discourse Processes*, the *Journal of Applied Linguistics and Professional Practice*, *Text & Talk*, *British Journal of Social Work*, and *Child and Family Social Work* and is co-editor and contributor to the book *Analysing Social Work Communication: Discourse in Practice*, published through Routledge (2014). She is the founding member of the Community College Research Faculty Interest Group at BMCC and the Community College Participatory Action Research Collaborative.

Michael Partis is a practicing anthropologist who studies community-based problem solving and urban political culture. He is an Adjunct Lecturer at CUNY BMCC's Center for Ethnic Studies. Michael's fieldwork and ethnographic research includes public housing in the South Bronx, restorative justice in New York City public schools, and local politics in Central Brooklyn. Currently, he is co-editing, with Fordham University Professor of History Mark Naison, a volume of post-1970 oral histories from Bronx residents.

Rosario Torres-Guevara holds a doctoral degree in International Educational Development with a concentration in Bilingual and Intercultural Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. Her scholarly interests are Border Theory, Intercultural Education, Indigenous Knowledges, and Decolonial Pedagogy. In addition to her work as an instructor, Rosario has been a consultant in intercultural initiatives that safeguard indigenous peoples in Argentina, Ecuador, Mexico, and Venezuela. She has also been a volunteer in community programs serving migrant populations in the U.S. and Mexico and has been a translator and educational consultant for the Mexican Consulate of New York, the Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon, the World Bank, and the CUNY Research Foundation. She has been a member of the Caribbean Philosophical Association Executive Board since 2011 and its Vice President from 2013-2016. She currently teaches critical thinking, developmental writing, and linguistics at BMCC.