AGENDA

Call to order 2:00 PM
Approval of the minutes from the Plenary Meeting of March 19, 2015 2:05 PM
Remarks of the Chair 2:05 – 2:15 PM
Report from the President 2:15 – 2:25 PM
Report from the Provost 2:25 – 2:45 PM
Reports from Faculty Senate Committees 2:45 – 3:15 PM
  i. Executive Committee
    a. Resolution in Response to CUNY Chancellor James Milliken’s Request For Recommendations regarding the Pathways Initiative
  ii. College Wide Resources Committee
Presentation on CUNY First 3:15 – 3:30 PM
Report of the Ombuds 3:30 – 3:40 PM
Old Business
  i. Resolution on Divestment of Fossil Fuel Stock & Focus on Combatting Climate Change
New Business
Adjournment 3:45 PM
I’d like to start by announcing that the Faculty Senate, through its Executive Committee and its Committee on Diversity, in collaboration with the President’s Council on Inclusive Excellence (the PCIE) will sponsor a workshop on Unconscious Bias later this spring. The workshop will be conducted by Professor Kristin Lane, a researcher and expert in this area. The workshop will likely take place on May 20. You should have received a ‘save the date’ notice. I’d like to encourage as many of us as possible to attend.

I would also like to announce that the terms of 13 senators are ending. Earlier this week, you received a memo describing the expired seats, and procedures for entering nominations for these vacant seats. Please have all the nominations into the Senate Office, properly filled out, by April 21, 2015. Elections, if more nominations are received, by division, than open seats, will be carried out May 5 through May 11. I should also apologize for the lateness of the notice that you received earlier this week. This action puts us out of compliance with the bylaws. I apologize for this. In spite of our best efforts, a number of factors converged to make this task take longer than hoped.

I would like to add a few more words about the Denise Dyce report that we discussed at the Plenary meeting last December. I sought additional information from the College about the report via the New York State Freedom of Information Law, and the College provided the Faculty Senate with additional information. As I have discussed with you in the past, all documents that belong to the Faculty Senate belong to the Faculty. Accordingly, if any member of the faculty wishes to view the documents that we received, they can do, by appointment with Jasmine Love.

Lastly, I would like to call on Professor David Weissmann who would like to briefly raise an idea with for your consideration.

Guests: C. Li, E. Lopez, T. Scala, A. Undieh

Excused: B. Kim, R. Saman, S. Rings

1., The meeting was called to order (2:11 PM)

2., The minutes of the February 19, 2015 meeting were approved. (2:12 PM)

3., Remarks of the Chair – Prof. Jeruzalmi (2:13 PM)
   • On March 19, the resolution for the budget process did not pass. The Chair requests the Provost and the Administration that they respect the sense of the Faculty Senate
   • College-wide Resources Committee satisfaction survey about the services of the RF now circulating
   • the organization of the workshop about unconscious bias is now at an advanced stage; the support from the President’s office in funding it is gratefully recognized

4., Presentation of President Coico (2:18)
   • graduation rate is up
   • Sophie Davis: report of site visit forthcoming, issues mostly about facilities.
   • move into South Campus ongoing
   • Metropolitan Catering: a full RFP will take a year and a half. Metropolitan can also apply
   • the efficacy of the custodians: in April 16th meeting there will be a report about the facilities
   • commencement might take place on South Campus lawn
   • Childcare center: 1.6 million to upgrade the facility, will be closed for a year, currently enrolled students subsidized, employees retrained at CCNY cost
• with number of faculty Fulbrighters we are tied for no. 1 in country
• the President emphasized that in the push for the state budget, CUNY and the union are in agreement

5., Reports from the committees
i. Senate Affairs committee (2:39 PM)
   the proposed resolution for modifying the governance plan, to allow for senators to be elected directly from the departments, not from the Divisions, passed (3:18)
   The Senate committed the matter of the formula for calculating the proportions of representation to the Committee (3:22)

ii. Education Committee (3:25)
   The question of the changes to the grading system (i.e. of the additional options made available by CUNYFirst) was sent back to the Committee

iii. Diversity Committee (3:37)
   The new nomination for Sophie Davis, João Nunes, was confirmed by voice vote

iv. Resolution on the Cuomo proposal to require experiential learning (3:39)
   adopted unanimously

v. Resolution on reform by the Academic Integrity Committee (3:42)
   adopted as amended, unanimously

6., Report of the Ombuds (3:50)
   CUNY Treasurer sends unpaid student bills to collection agencies.

7., New Business (3:59)
   Prof Feigenberg’s resolution was tabled for our next meeting. Wednesday March 4 at 6 pm, GC Sociology Lounge: forum on Child Development Center

The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 PM

Respectfully submitted,

András Kiséry, secretary
Resolution in Response to CUNY Chancellor James Milliken’s Request For Recommendations regarding the Pathways Initiative

Whereas Chancellor Milliken has convened a committee to evaluate the CUNY Pathways Initiative (Pathways) and has solicited recommendations regarding the Pathways Initiative;

Whereas Pathways arrogated the responsibility of the faculty to make decisions regarding curricula;

Whereas Pathways continues to limit the freedom of the faculty to develop the best undergraduate curricula for our students;

Whereas City College’s general education curriculum had evolved over decades and was designed “to provide students with a broad introduction to the liberal arts and sciences” as the “basis of every student’s education at City College” (City College Bulletin 2009-11, 293);

Whereas Pathways reduced City College’s General Education requirement from 51 credits to 42 credits;

Whereas, for example, Pathways resulted in the loss, for City College BA students, of a speech course, 3 credits and 3 classroom hours of language instruction for students fulfilling the language requirement with a modern language, and one additional course in the “flexible core” areas (because our FIQWS topic seminar could no longer stand alone as a unique experience that does not fulfill a particular area requirement);

Whereas general education courses provide students with fundamental literacy in fields essential to a broad education and lay the groundwork for student success in more advanced, specialized coursework;

Whereas recent New York State strictures on courses taken by students on financial aid make it increasingly difficult for students to take courses outside of general education requirements and major requirements, and expanded general education requirements would enable students to take a wider array of courses that allow them to explore areas outside of their major;

Whereas the complex structure of Pathways hinders innovative curriculum development;

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the City College of New York asks the Chancellor to add 9 additional credits to the “College Option” so that colleges may implement or reinstate requirements that are unique to their campuses and academic identities.