Minutes of the

Faculty Senate Plenary

March 15, 2012

Shepard Hall 250

The City College

**Present**: Provost Moskovits, Associate Provost Bank,   
VP Edmonson, AVP Lloyd, VP Posman, AVP J. Reina, Counsel Occhiogrosso; Deans: D. Cintron, P. Gillespie, M. Hoskin, J. Mercado, G. Ranalli; Director M. Brownlee;

Senators: B. Albee, D. Akins, R. Alfano, P. Brass, L.Callahan, J. Davis, C. Hazel, M. Castiglioni, M.T Chang, B. Crain, S. Epstein, J. Gallagher, D. Greenberger, M. Gutman, J. Hamilton, R. Kalia, C. Lascar, J. Lee, M. Lutz, S. Nicoll, R. Raj, S. Rings, D. Sank, I. Salame, N. Sohler, C. Watkins, J. Wilner, M. Woessner, I. Wu,

**Excused**: A. Indych-Lopez, President Coico, J. Barba, R. Laurich, S. Pittson, D. Weissman, Y. Wyner

**Guests**: L. Galman, J. Connorton, I. Krawitz, K. Kathy Powell-Manning, M.R. Strzeszewski, A. Tinajero

**Student Representatives:** T. Podolsky

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1. The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m.
2. The minutes of the February 16, 2012 meeting were approved.
3. Remarks of the Chair—Professor Raj

* March is Women’s History Month. Thank you to our women faculty. A rose flower was presented to all on behalf of the Senate.
* The PSC, UFS and many other CUNY colleges are not favorably supporting Pathways’ implementation.
* UFS has also passed a resolution re: changing the practice of having 15 political appointments to the CUNY Board of Trustees. Faculty should have some say in the selection process.
* Alumni’s Faculty and Administration Awards Committee met and have selected two distinguished candidates, one faculty and one staff member for the awards.
* The Senate Executive Committee met on March 8 and took the following actions:
* Approved the President’s proposal for the award for excellence
* Approved the concept for an Administration Faculty Fellows Program
* Approved the President’s updated proposal for the Outstanding Faculty Service Award, which included library and non-full time faculty.
* Approved the Provost’s proposal on, “Assessment prior to last day to withdrawal from courses.”
* Approved modification to promotion article in the College Governance.
* Discussed the decline of underrepresented/ minority enrollment and its consequences.
* Senior Advisor to the President and Chief of Staff to the President, Deborah Hartnett discussed CUNY-Matrix regarding performance goals and targets, and how CCNY stands in it.
* Dean searches are still continuing and may take a bit longer and extra effort in view of attracting the best possible candidates.
* On March 27, 2012, the Board of Trustees approved our resolutions re: the modification of tenure procedure. It is effective immediately to all new cases to be taken up by departments.
* A call for nominations for the elections of Senators and Ombudsperson have been posted on the Senate website and announced college-wide.
* A similar notice re: the need for five new senators for CCNY delegations to UFS election has also been announced college wide.

1. Remarks of the President—President Coico (The President was not in attendance due to a family emergency.)
2. Athletics Department Report—Coach Jamie Angeli

* Discussed a new fundraiser: CCNY Athletics Game Show Night
* The event will take place Thursday, April 5 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. There will be cash prizes.

1. Resources Committee—Professor Alfano

* A new travel program for faculty was established
* A grant bridge funding program for faculty was established
* Grad research and teaching initiative fund distribution issues were discussed and changes made.
* A term abroad program has been approved.
* Outside White Paper Panels need to be implemented.

1. Educational Policy Committee: Resolution on Residency for Award of Degree—Professor Tinajero

* The office of Undergraduate Studies is working with departments to determine major GPA requirements.
* Resolution: To be eligible for a degree, a student must complete a minimum of 80 credits or the last 30 credits at CCNY. Second-degree candidates who completed their first degree at CCNY are exempt from this requirement for the second degree. In all cases, at least 60% of the major must be completed at CCNY.
* Resolution was unanimously approved.

1. Faculty Committee on Personnel Matters—Prof. Watkins

* Encouraged faculty to respond to the faculty survey.
* A handout was distributed at this meeting re: the concept for an Administrative Faculty Fellows Program.

1. Resolution on Assessment Prior to Withdrawal Deadline—Professor Strzeszewski, Provost Moskovits

* Resolution: That in every 100- and 200-level course, an assessment action, including, but not limited to, a test, a quiz, a piece of written work, [or] a project, be scheduled and provided with a numerical grade, and the outcome of the assessment be communicated to the students at least one week before the last day of that semester for which a W grade can be assigned. Instructors of undergraduate courses at the 300 level and above are strongly encouraged to observe these same guidelines.
* The resolution passed by a vote of 22 yes, 4 no, 0 abstain.

1. Governance Matter: Change to Promotions Article

* Changed to: In that event [that the department chairperson does not hold equal or great rank than the candidate seeks] the members of the department will elect a faculty member of the highest rank to be chairperson of the Promotions committee. The positive votes of a majority of those eligible to vote, with the exception of the faculty members on approved leave of absence, unless such faculty members on approved leave notify the department chairperson of their intention to participate as voting members and attend relevant meetings of the departmental promotions committee, shall be required for an affirmative recommendation for promotion.
* The resolution was unanimously approved.

1. Discussion: Decline of Underrepresented/Minority Enrollment—Professor Crain

* Professor Watkins stated that there has been a decline in minority enrollment for minority enrollment for engineering, and the college-wide decline is direr now. CCNY has lost some funding as a result of the decline. The enrollment decline is even steeper for CCNY than for the NYC population.
* A motion to bring the minority report from 3 years ago to the president was approved by the Senate.

1. Report of the Ombudsperson—Professor Gallagher

* There is an urgent need for students to be able to compute their major GPAs. Prof. Wilner suggested that an asterisk be included with the GPA calculator (given that major GPAs are calculated in different ways depending on the department).
* Money is needed to purchase 62 clickers (for Faculty Senate/Council voting).
* Students’ not getting course syllabi has long been an issue. This is a contractual obligation for faculty.

1. New Business

* Professor Greenberger stated that there is a bottleneck re: job applications getting to departments from Affirmative Action. Understaffing in the CCNY Affirmative Action office was discussed.
* This matter will be brought before the Senate Executive Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Rings

Secretary