

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of the City University of New York

The College Senate: March 18, 1999

Present: Nasser Abdellatif, Ruth Bass, Kathleen Berger, Mary Coleman, Marsha Cummins, Howard Fuld, Arthur Galub, Bernard Gantt, Allan Glasser, Donna Goetz, Millie Hermina, Charlene Hoberman, Doreen Le Blanc, A. McInerney, M.L. Nickerson, Luis Pinto, Marianne Pita, Phyllis Read, James Ryan, George Sanchez, Brenda Scranton, M.S. Schryer, Antonio Seas, Frank Sharpe, Jeff Spielberger, David Taylor, Carolyn Williams, Bernard Witlieb.

Guests: John Allen, John Davis, Jason Finkelstein, Stephen Greenfeld, Howard Harris, Charlotte Honda, Nancy Ritze.

Excused: Marcia Keizs, Henry Skinner, Michele Stern

Meeting called to order at 12:25 by Dr. Ruth Bass

I - Introductions. Dr. Abdellatif introduced the new representative from the Department of Physics and Technology, Dr. Antonio Seas. Dr. Bass introduced Dr. Stephen Greenfeld, Director of Academic Advisement.

II- The **agenda** was adopted

III - The **minutes** of February 18, 1999, were approved, with one addition, as follows:

The Senate passed the Academic Integrity Policy, presented by the Committee on Instruction and Professional Development after consultation with legal representatives from the CUNY office. The new wording is tighter than the earlier version approved by the Senate in April 1998, but there were no changes in the substance.

IV—**President's Report.**

President Williams recapped the oral exit report presented by the Middle States site visitors on March 17. She said she felt as if the weight of the world were off her shoulders and that the College did its homework very well. She summarized that the team found an accomplished and caring faculty and staff, energetic students, and new leaders with an articulated vision and a solid governance structure. She also mentioned areas of concern, including pre-requisites, academic advisement, enrollment, evaluation of remedial offerings, library and learning center facilities, the Master Plan and ADA compliance, using institutional research data for assessment, improving systems to better deliver professional development, increasing accuracy of student records, training our students for the future workforce, and, especially, technology advancement. These will be given to the college in written form, which The College can respond to in May. The President indicated that, overall, the report was good and there were no surprises.

V - **Announcements and Reports:**

A. Dr. Ruth Bass, the Chairperson, announced that the Senate needs to nominate board members for Auxiliary Enterprises and BCC Inc. The Senate Executive Committee needs to pass four names for Auxiliary Enterprises and six names for BCC Inc., and the President will choose two of the four, and three of the six.

B. Academic Affairs. Charlotte Honda announced that on May 3 the Environment Technology Curriculum will be presented to the CUNY Board of Trustees,

C. Administration and Finance. Vice President Coleman announced that some funding was added two days ago. \$900,000 is expected for the College Bargaining Raises (the college actually receives only 751,000 of this, because fringes are taken out) and BCC is expected to get

\$564,000 from the 4.3 million approved by the City Council. That leaves the college still short by \$350,000 for this semester. Presumably this means we must live within a curtailed OTPS.

D. Student Development. Vice President Scranton is working particularly on registration, to make it "much kinder process for students". She is also trying to implement pre and co requisite requirements.

E. Other announcements.

Jeff Spielberg announced that the deadline for the Senate newsletter was March 12.

Phyllis Read announced that the Women's History lunch is tomorrow.

Howard Irby requested that Center for Education and Literary Arts include the name of Councilman Lawrence A. Warden, who gave a grant of \$260,000.

VI – **Performance Excellence Awards** were the topic of a major presentation from Howard Harris (for PSC-CUNY) and George Sanchez (for the college). This emerged from the new contract, and is not "merit pay" but has some similarities (for this reason some CUNY units have passed resolutions in opposition). This money must be used for this purpose --- no college can decide to use it for some other need.

There are five awards, \$5,000 each, for members of the college community (adjuncts are included). At least one of the five must go to non-faculty. First each department P and B must pass names on (by majority vote) to a subcommittee of the College P and B, who make recommendations to the President, who must decide by May 15.

VII – **BCC/CUNY Legislative Action Council.**

Carol White spoke of the state budget, which includes severe restrictions of financial aid. Among these are raising the definition of a full academic load from 12 to 15 credits, and charging a penalty to students who do not complete their credits. An estimated 3,500 current BCC students will be negatively affected, and many will not be able to meet these standards and drop out in despair. Students are writing letters, and a bus is going to Albany on March 23 to protest this. Faculty and staff are urged to write letters as well.

VIII – **Committee reports and Action Item.**

A. The *Curriculum Committee* submitted a report (attached). The action item included was a change of name for English O1 and O2 from Writing Workshop to Developmental Writing. Passed unanimously.

B. The *Committee on Governance and Elections* announced the results of elections to the Space and Facilities committee. Elected are Lois Augustus, Fred DeNaples, and Atlaw Beligne. Within a week the College community of faculty will be asked for nomination for 15 Senators at large. Ballots will be distributed soon after that.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed that the membership of the Committee of Instruction be expanded to include one representative from each department. The de jure numbers of faculty on the committee had been 9, although de facto many departments already appointed representatives. The remainder of the committee – 3 students and a representative from both Academic Affairs and Student Development – was not changed.

C. The *Committee on Instruction and Professional Development* is preparing to read, analyze and recommend proposals from faculty and staff for Professional Development. These are funded by a semester grant of \$50,000 from the President, who makes the final decision.

D. Other committees had no reports at the present time.

Respectfully Submitted: Kathleen Berger, Secretary Pro Tem.

