

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of the City University of New York

The College Senate:

October 14, 1999

Present: Nasser Abdellatif, Kayan Bartley, Ruth Bass, Madeline Bates, Andriette Beckford, Kathleen Berger, Vincent Bonelli, Ray Canals, Mary Coleman, Nelly Cruz, Mayra Cruz, Marsha Cummins, Diane D'Alessio, Eli Fleurant, Barbara Florenzan, Howard Fuld, Marjorie Garrido, Paula Gilbert, Donna Goetz, Debra Gonsler, Nicole Holmes, Allan Glasser, Sharlene Hoberman, Roman Kossak, Marcia Keizs, Marc Leggett, Howard L. Lepzelter, Andrew McInerney, Virginia Mishkin, Marie-Louise Nickerson, Mark Padnos, Rosemary Quinn, Phyllis Read, Nelson Reynoso, Julian Rosado, James Ryan, Brenda Scranton, Antonio Seas, Frank Sharpe, Jeff Spielberger, Henry Skinner, Michele Stern, Lynne Ticke, Howard Wach, Bernard Witlieb.

Guests: Lenonard Cardiale, Sharon Clarke, Alice Fuller, Kayanne Goodin, Charlotte Honda, Eileen Mentone, Nancy Ritze, Mitchell Wenzel.

Excused: Arthur Galub

Meeting called to order at 12:20 by Dr. Ruth Bass

I – Dr. Bass **welcomed those new to the Senate**. Marc Leggett (SGA) and Lynne Ticke (Social Science) introduced themselves.

II – It was moved, seconded and adopted that the **agenda** be changed to include a report from the student Government Association. The agenda was approved as amended.

III – The **minutes** of September 23, 1999 were approved, with Marie-Louise Nickerson and Diane D'Alessio as members, not guests.

IV—**President's Report:** VP Keizs brought greetings from President Williams, who is at the national conference of the American Association of Community Colleges, which she currently chairs. President Williams is escorting four CUNY trustees at the conference (their first time).

V – Announcements and Reports

A. **Chair Ruth Bass** thanked the new Chair of Faculty Council, Dr. Phyllis Read, for the Governance Plan sent to all members of the Senate. She pointed out the material (copies available at this meeting) distributed by Faculty Council and the Senate on the remarks made by Herman Badillo, Chair of the CUNY Trustees.

Dr. Bass announced that former faculty member, Leo Leiberman, has published a book of witticisms.

Dr. Bass also informed the Senate that the Executive Committee of the Senate elected two additional people to the Committee on Deans, Dr. James Ryan and Dr. Nasser Abdellatif.

B. **Vice President Keizs** announced that an open meeting on the college Academic Integrity policy will be held tomorrow, October 15, from 10-12 in LH32. On November 12th, another all-day Instructional Technology Day will be held, organized by Dr. Kwi Park-Kim. Three Departments have site visits this Fall: Music and Art has already occurred, Communication Arts and Sciences will occur next week, and Nursing will be visited by the State Education Department in about a month.

VI- Budget Report: Vice President Coleman reported that her office is presently completing a financial plan to be submitted to the University. The preliminary budget is not balanced, as requests from the Divisions exceed the funds allocated. In seeking to balance the budget, priority is on the academic programs, although some maintenance cannot be deferred ever longer without becoming even most costly.

The budget allocation for FY00 is 36.6 million, about 2 million dollars more the initial allocation last year. However this exceeds the actual FY99 ending budget by only half a million, and those funds are almost all required by the scheduled 2% salary increase for all instructional staff. Because CUNY's revenue goal for each college is based on a 3 year weighted average of collection, and because we are projecting no increase in enrollment for Spring 00 over Fall 99, we will be short an estimated \$1.2 million in our revenue transfer to CUNY. We must make up this shortfall by reducing expenditures, no small feat since we are in dire need of investment in academic programs and administrative support.

In response to a question, VP Coleman said that the Board of Education schools on campus do not pay rent. However, we are funded in the CUNY maintenance budget on outside gross square footage, which includes those spaces not currently used by the college.

VII- Committee reports and Action Items.

The Curriculum Committee has no new action items, although they have several items under discussion. The Chair, James Ryan reminded the Senate about the report from the Subcommittee on Course Evaluation, which was approved by the Curriculum Committee last Spring and was submitted to the College Senate on May 20th. That report was discussed at the May 20th meeting. Approval was postponed until background material was sent to all the Senate. Since that material was sent in July,.

Acceptance of the report of the Subcommittee on Course Evaluation was moved, seconded, and overwhelmingly passed by the Senate.

Governance and Elections. Chair Bernard Witlieb left early, so his report was presented by Dr. Ruth Bass. Two adjuncts must be elected to join the Senate. Dr. Witlieb is circulating nominations, with brief biographies, to all the adjuncts for this election.

Faculty Council will elect members for three committees. Nominations have been solicited for the Committee on Community Relations, Faculty/Student Disciplinary Committee, and the Committee on Governance and Elections.

Instruction and Professional Development has elected a new Chair, Kathy Williams. They urge submissions for Professional Development grants, which are due on October 24th. These will be discussed by the Committee, who will make recommendations to the President.

Student Activities announced two Halloween events, a haunted house for the children on October 29th and a party that evening for students, from 8 to 1 am.

They also are sponsoring a clothing drive, from now until November 1st, to collect used clothes to be given to nearby shelters, and the Toys for Tots drives to collect Christmas toys to be given to children in hospitals and shelters.

Dr. Read announced that the Child Development Center, as their only fundraiser this semester, is sponsoring an Island/Country Western dance on October 22nd.

The Student Government Association noted that students are concerned about the ESL program being phased out. They are also beginning a SGA scholarship program, which may include a donation of unlimited metro cards, because they see retention as a major problem of the college and financial problems as the main underlying issue.

They are working to modify the new Welfare regulations, including sponsoring a letter writing campaign and a trip to Albany.

They are concerned about the lack of air conditioning in the annex, where the Family College is, and are developing proposals to remedy this problem.

In response to questions, they said they are soliciting students to register to vote, and would like more voter registration cards.

Faculty Senate . Representative Howard Fuld reported on Chancellor Goldstein's speech to the Senate. He said nothing about Community Colleges, but he did say he plans to phase out remediation in the Senior Colleges, as mandated by the Trustees. He is concerned about getting the elite students of New York City back into CUNY, not SUNY. Henry Skinner added that the Chancellor is advocating targeting allocation of resources, such as faculty in the Computer Sciences. Discussion followed regarding where to put additional (possibly 1,000) BCC students if remediation plans go forward. VP Coleman noted that there still are classrooms unused at 8am, from 4-7 pm, and on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

VIII – Procedures for Naming or Renaming College Spaces. Chair Bass noted that the Senate passed a policy for naming new buildings last February. However, no one from the Committee on Space, Facilities and Physical Plant was at that meeting, and they subsequently advised the Senate that they do not feel it is their role to decide on naming building.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that the Senate reexamine the proposal passed in February. Discussion focused on the need for a clear policy and process for naming buildings. Chair Bass asked if the Senate Executive Committee should be the group to discuss such a process, and the body agreed with that suggestion.

VIII- New Business. The remarks by Herman Badillo, chair of the CUNY Board of Trustees, were again raised, with the possibility of the Senate passing a resolution opposing them in some way. It was moved, seconded, and approved by a large majority by a show of hands to endorse the letter sent by the University Faculty Senate, which censured those remarks "in the strongest possible terms." (Attached).

Respectfully Submitted:



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September 30, 1999

TO: CUNY Board of Trustees
College Presidents
Chancellery
Members of University Faculty Senate
Council of Faculty Governance Leaders
City Newspapers
Elected Officials

FR: Bernard Sohmer, Chair 

The following was adopted by the executive committee of this body in response to remarks made by Chair Badillo last week.

STATEMENT OF THE UFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Adopted unanimously, September 28, 1999

We hereby censure in the strongest possible terms the recent remarks of Board Chair Herman Badillo characterizing certain ethnic groups by their physical traits, making uninformed generalizations about their cultures, and suggesting segregated education according to national origin.

Such statements bring dishonor upon the office of Chair and upon the entire Board.

We note his public apology but call upon Mr. Badillo to demonstrate through his actions and policies that he is committed to treating all groups in society equally, without prejudice, and in accordance with the law of the land.

We call upon the Governor to monitor the remarks and behavior of Mr. Badillo with care and to take appropriate punitive action, including the possibility of removal as Chair, should such behavior and rhetoric recur.