

Minutes of the 161th Meeting of the Faculty Senate

Thursday, December 15, 2022 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm in person & virtually.

Faculty Senate (FS) Members in Attendance:

Neo Antoniadis, Alyson Bardsley, Alan Benimoff, Cynthia Chris, David Curcio, Deborah DeSimone, Christine Flynn Saulnier, Valerie Forrestal, Kenneth Gold, Orit Gruber, Roshen Hendrickson, Susan Holak, Susan Imberman, Burnett Joiner, Wilma Jones, Catherine Lavender, Sharon Loverde, Timothy Lynch, Jane Marcus-Delgado, Lee Papa, Michael Paris, Carles Solà Belda, Michael Steiper, Sarolta Takács, Thomas Tellefsen, John Verzani, Siona Wilson, John Wing.

FS Members Via Zoom:

Jay Arena, Comfort Asanbe, , Katie Cumiskey, Sean Edgecomb, Hosu Kim, John Lawrence, Alfred Levine, Andrew Leykam, Lucas Marchante-Aragón, Isabel Rechberg, George Wang, Simone Wegge, Mark White.

Guests In-Person:

Cheryl Adolph, Winsome Alston, Warrick Bell, Nina DelGatto, Veronica DiMeglio, Aleks Dudek, Jennifer Durando, Emmanuel Esperance Jr., Stephen Ferst, ,Julie Guerrero Michel Hodge, Michael Ivany,, Sylvia Kahan, Patricia Kahn, Chase Licata, Mark Lewental, Susan Massara, Tara Mastroilli, Ralf Peetz, Keith Pisons, Alex Scott, Carlos Serrano, Suzy Shepardson, Jessica Stein, Amy Stempler, Robert Wallace,.

Guests via Zoom:

Barbara Cohen, Cesar Arena-Mena, Linda Conte, Danielle Dimitrov, Ewa Dzurak, Katrina Fama, Antonio Gallego Maureen Garvey, Hernan Green, Lisa Korchma, Florinda Mattia, Christine McEville, Eileen Parathyras, Terri Sangiorgio, Janine Scotto, Byron Taylor, Brenda Valentin, Rosemary Vitale,

- I. Approval the agenda.
Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- II. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate of October 27th, 2022.
Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- III. Executive Committee Report: Appendix A
- IV. Provost's Report : Appendix B
- V. Reports of the Committees of the Faculty Senate
 - a. Curricular Committees – Chairs:
 - i. General Education Committee –
 - ii. Graduate Studies Committee –
 - iii. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee –

Consent Agenda for Thursday, December 15, 2022

AIII. DEGREE CHANGES

AIII.14 DEPARTMENT OF NURSING: NEW ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS RE: BIOLOGY COURSEWORK

AIII.15 DEPARTMENT OF NURSING: NEW ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS RE: BIOLOGY COURSES

AIII.16 DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA CULTURE: CHANGE IN EXISTING MINOR CINEMA STUDIES

AIII.17 DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA CULTURE: CHANGE IN EXISTING MINOR PRODUCTION CINEMA

AIII.18 DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA CULTURE: CHANGE IN EXISTING MINOR CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

AIII.19 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECONOMICS BA AND MHC ECONOMICS BA

AIII.20 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECONOMICS BS AND MHC ECONOMICS BS

AIII.21 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECONOMICS BS: BUSINESS SPECIALIZATION AND MHC ECONOMICS BS: BUSINESS SPECIALIZATION

AIII.22 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECONOMICS BS: FINANCE SPECIALIZATION AND MHC ECONOMICS BS: FINANCE SPECIALIZATION

AIII.23 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECONOMICS MINOR

AIII.24 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS: COMMUNICATIONS BS: DESIGN AND DIGITAL MEDIA

AIV. NEW COURSES

AIV.7 DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY: PSY 370 PSYCHOLOGY OF EMOTION

AV. CHANGE IN EXISTING COURSES

AV.25 DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: GEO 210 EARTH MATERIALS

AV.26 DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: GEO 310 GEOCHEMISTRY

AV.27 DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: GEO 325 MARINE GEOLOGY

AV.28 DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: ESC 402 THE SCIENCE OF GLOBAL WARNING

AV.29 DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: GEO 410 GEOSPATIAL DATA ANALYSIS

AV.30 DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: GEO 460 CAPSTONE RESEARCH SEMINAR AND THESIS

AV.31 DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY: PSY 352 HISTORY AND SYSTEMS OF PSYCHOLOGY

AV.32 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY: SOC 120 SOCIAL PROBLEMS

AV.33 PROGRAM IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND INFORMATICS AND DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING: ISI 374 INFORMATION SYSTEMS PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Consent agenda moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

- VI. University Faculty Senate Report – At the last UFS plenary, there were 3 presentations: one was by our colleague Matt Brim & the Provost of Bronx CC, about *rewarding teaching*. They made some recommendations and it is split into

two categories – one is trying to instill guidelines for reappointment process. There is some pushback especially amongst the Community College faculty about a recommendation that would incorporate retention rates and DFWI rates into the evaluation of teaching. This seems to be a non-starter on every campus at CUNY. Matt Brim is also pushing for a number *of rewards for excellence in teaching*. There was a presentation on a faculty survey on transfer by two past university provosts Lexa Logue and Vita Rabinowitz. The UFS is interested in the issue of transfers, since the BOT seems to be and the Chancellor has a new initiative rolling out, and there will be 6 degree areas that will be asked to participate. I believe they are: Accounting, Business, Computer Science Engineering, Psychology, and one other. Discipline Councils are to meet in January, so the UFS will be reaching out to the chairs of those departments
3 issues we have considered: CUNY On-line; enrollment number; work of the UFS ad-hoc transfer committee

Question: There is talk that CUNY requested a huge amount of money for on-line programs in the budget, what impact might this have at CUNY and for CSI?

Answer: TYEs. That's what I'm hearing too. We will need to be ready. There was \$8M from the Federal Funds and another \$5M of \$40M that the governor gave us as seed money. There is also a request in the Budget request. There's a structure in place, there's a new AVP who is running on-line, it's no longer out of SPS. The focus is asynchronous instruction for adult learners. Currently CSI does not fit into that. However, there will be a report given to the Chancellor at the end of December looking at where there are gaps in our current offerings. There is an intention to develop about 100 new degree or certificate programs over the next 5 years – but it is not spread out evenly. The intent is to ramp this up quickly and they're going to go to campuses and ask them to participate. It is up to the CSI faculty to participate or not.

Question: Will they support an online course that is in direct competition with an in-person course? Answer: Yes. They are trying to develop fundamental programs and there certainly will be replication. The BOT allows the Chancellor to take a traditional course, or set of courses, or degree program, and if it's moved into "on-line offerings" after it passes campus governance, then the Chancellor had the authority to move that as quickly as possible. It no longer needs BOT approval.

- VII. Old Business – FSXC encourages all departments to review the report submitted by the research committee.
- VIII. New Business – Consideration of moving 4 credit courses to 3 credits. Discussion ensued.
- IX. Adjournment. *Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously at 4:34pm*

APPENDIX A

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report December 15, 2022

December 15, 2022

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report

I am pleased to submit this report on behalf of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. As the semester comes to an end, we look forward to the new year with cautious optimism. The year 2022 brought us many reasons to be hopeful and some tough challenges that we will face in the coming months. For our part, we are grateful that the COVID pandemic has somewhat subsided, but we are still concerned about its lasting effects on our community, as well as the possibility of a resurgence in the near future. We are happy that CSI's new administration has made great strides in restoring shared governance with the faculty and staff, but we are still somewhat uneasy about the number of temporary appointments in our leadership. We are looking forward to a presidential search that is as transparent as possible, conducted in a spirit of democracy and participation.

The College continues to face significant financial challenges that are inextricably tied to our enrollment. We are encouraged by the work of our colleagues in admissions and student success who are striving to increase our numbers in both bringing new students and retaining them. We appreciate the work of our colleagues in the faculty and staff who are supporting this process and strongly urge every member of the community to pitch in and help. And we firmly believe that a critical part of rebuilding CSI lies in having faculty and staff present on campus **in person**. Although we recognize that many students prefer the convenience of on-line classes, we consider it to be in their best interest – especially among first-year students and lower-level classes – to be taught in person.

Although we are extremely cognizant of the financial pressures on the College, we would like to remind our colleagues that our primary role and our profession is to educate students and to contribute to scholarship in our respective areas. We must resist at all costs the efforts to corporatize and commoditize our institution. We cannot fall into a trap of seeking ways to “market” CSI by prioritizing more profitable areas over others. There is much talk about preparing students for jobs, which often translates into diverting resources into STEM and pre-professional majors. We argue that the humanities and social sciences must not be marginalized at the expense of “job training” programs – there is room at the table for all of these areas. We must prepare students for diverse and rewarding professional opportunities; we cannot sacrifice our mission as a liberal arts college in the name of financial expediency.

On December 6, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee met with Provost Steiper and three of the deans. We held a wide-ranging discussion that emphasized ways in which we can improve the quality of academic life at the College. We expressed concern at the way in which faculty lines had been allocated to departments in the last round, and the provost assured us that the process would be more inclusive going forward. We spoke about changes that could be made to improve academic life at CSI, including issues involving transfer students and the need for an increased faculty presence on campus. We also

talked about the pros and cons of shifting the number of credits in our courses, an issue that we will address later in this meeting.

As we head into finals week, we are very concerned about the issues of cheating and plagiarism, especially in online courses. We urge Academic Affairs to address this problem aggressively and would greatly appreciate feedback from faculty members that have successfully dealt with it.

In closing, we want to thank the members of the Senate, especially those chairing our committees, for your dedication and hard work. As we saw at the recent Convocation, many people have given decades of their lives to serving public higher education at its best. We wish everyone happy holidays and look forward to seeing you in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Marcus-Delgado

Chair

APPENDIX B

Provost's Report December 15, 2022

Good afternoon,

I'd like to draw your attention to Chat GPT or AIR. I encourage you all to explore this, as it is directly related to the concerns voiced by the FSXC regarding cheating. If you think things are challenging now, Chat GPT is going to transform how people write and AIR is already doing that. I urge you all to use the normal channels to report academic dishonesty by your students. If you have an extreme case scenario, please bring that to my attention, especially things like the use of ChatGPT or AIR. Given these new technologies, it is time to bring together some of our faculty committees to address this with more focused attention.

I would like to acknowledge that it is finals week and the end of the semester. I invite Registrar Susan Massarra to please make a few comments: "Please submit your grades on time. It is very important for the students for graduation, for us to validate their graduation for employment, and for registration. We have opened up a new mailbox for Grade Watch & Support that will give you a summary of the actual grades."

Wilma Jones is the new Director of the Faculty Center. I invite Wilma to report on the happenings at the Faculty Center and the vision going forward.

Wilma reported that The Center:

(1) Established a steering committee of people across the divisions and asked for those interested in participating to contact her. The following people serve on the committee for AY2023-24: Mary Boland, Christina Boyle, Valkiria Duran, Hosu Kim, Sarah Pollock, Bethany Rogers, Russell Rosen, Shiryn Sukhram, Mohamed Talafha, and George Vachadze

(2) is actively looking for external funding and applied for and received \$7500 to upgrade equipment needed for training and presentations and from CUNY Transformative Learning in the Humanities.

(3) Conducted a needs Assessment Survey that identified the following priorities: Teaching Styles & Pedagogical Approaches (Problem and project based learning was top); Assessment (creating assessments alternative to exams); Workshops (better use of Blackboard), Technology (Polling and using Navigate)

Upcoming events – In January workshops about creating solid syllabi, using alternative assessments, enhancing instruction with technology, and Navigate.

In spring, in-person training sessions & programs. The center offers programs on Pedagogy, Research, Assessment, Course design, and Student Engagement. Some will be discipline based.

Faculty interest groups will be facilitated – for adjuncts for writing, for lecturers, and with other constituents on campus and to highlight the resources on campus.

Wilma and I will be coming to you to lead these events.

COACHE SURVEY occurring again this spring. We will need everyone to please participate.

Faculty Accolades: Great success with FFPP – Faculty Fellowship Publication Program, run by CUNY Brian Weber from Economics and Jane Alexander from Engineering & Environmental Science were both chosen as Fellows. Matt Brim serves as academic Director and Ava Chin is a mentor in this programs. Congratulations to all!

Catherine Lavender of, History with Nora Santiago just completed the final Year of Willowbrook even with the panel of self-advocates, which was co-sponsored by the Self-Advocacy Association of New York State, which capped off year of Public Programming that had more than 2,000 people attending, so congratulations for that.

Sandra Gambetti was awarded a fellowship as a visiting scholar at the University of Munster in Germany. She will pursue her work on the Alexandrian Riots and Persecution of the Jews.

Hyoung Suk Shim, from the Department of Accounting and Finance, recently published a journal titled Female Entrepreneurs, Managing from Home, which was accepted by Small Business Economics.

Sean Thatcher, a lecturer in Engineering and Environmental Science, published a very thoughtful piece on the work they are doing to bring students with accessibility challenges to field based research. The Title of the initiative is called GEO SPACE. That was published in Nature Reviews, Earth, and Environment. Congratulations Sean.

Thank you for a great semester, happy holidays to all.

Question: I've heard rumors that small programs will be cut, Given CSI's dire financial forecast, is there an initiative to eliminate small programs?

Provost: I don't want to comment on rumors except to say I haven't heard that one!

Question: Could you please tell us the outcome of the College-Wide Survey?

Provost: I am happy to bring the results of the survey to this body once I have met with Tara and all the members of the committee to finalize the analysis.

Question: Given that students systemically use chat apps to share questions and answers during exams, what guidance can you give us and what steps are being taken to stop this.

Provost: If you are aware of cheating, please use the established procedures to address it. I understand that the scale of it and students' perception of what cheating is might diverge greatly from what a faculty member's definition. Conversations with the students are needed - reviewing a statement or affirmation of values, discussing what is cheating and what is not cheating are all helpful. If you've laid out the ground rules, you should enforce them with the mechanism that are in place. Clearly, we need to have a longer and deeper conversation about this spring.

Comment: The Course & Standing Committee is eager to take up this issue in the Spring!